

## Arafat to address U.N. today

GENEVA (R) — Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), will make a speech at the United Nations' European headquarters on Wednesday as Middle East peace talks get underway in Washington. U.N. Spokesman Pierre Moukoko said Mr. Arafat would address a U.N.-sponsored meeting in Geneva on the Palestinian question and then give a news conference. His visit will coincide with a new round of Arab-Israeli peace talks in Washington, which opened on Monday. Mr. Arafat was quoted on Monday as saying the Palestinian uprising would continue despite the Washington talks. Mr. Arafat told the Bahrain newspaper Akhbar Al Khaleej the uprising was "the other face of the Palestinians' right to exist." He said 2,000 people had been killed and 98,000 injured during the four-and-a-half-year uprising. The Geneva meeting of non-governmental organisations will also be addressed on Wednesday by Oliver Tambo, national chairman of the African National Congress.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية والراية

## U.N. adopts resolution supporting Bosnia

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The General Assembly Tuesday adopted a resolution urging the Security Council to take tougher action to aid Bosnia-Herzegovina, either by use of force or tightening sanctions. The non-binding resolution passed by a vote of 136 in favour with only Yugoslavia voting against and five abstentions: Russia, China, Lesotho, Malawi and Namibia. The vote followed two days of an outpouring of support for Bosnia-Herzegovina, with several Islamic nations calling for force in aid of the embattled republic. In the General Assembly meetings, Jordan's United Nations envoy Adnan Abu Odeh called on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities towards Bosnia-Herzegovina. In Jordan's address before the General Assembly, Mr. Abu Odeh said humanitarian and diplomatic efforts exerted by the world community to deal with the Serb aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina were not enough to bring the conflict to an end. "With all our respect to these humanitarian and diplomatic efforts, still we believe they are not enough to stop the Serb aggression. The evidence on that is that the aggression was not restrained so far," he said.

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## Lawzi to represent King at NAM summit

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has delegated the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, to represent him at the Non-Aligned Movement's summit due to open in Indonesia on Sept. 1, 1992. Mr. Lawzi will deliver the King's address to the summit. Mr. Lawzi will leave Amman Thursday at the head of a Jordanian delegation which will attend the summit. The delegation will include Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber, Jordan's Ambassador to Indonesia, Luai Khashman, Khalil Othman, Mr. Bashir Zoubi and Saeed Abu Shattal from the Foreign Ministry and Zeid Zreikat from Parliament.

## Regent visits Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday visited Aqaba and inspected facilities of the Jordanian Ports Corporation and met with its employees. The Regent inspected the work process at the corporation and urged its personnel to persevere in their work. Prince Hassan reassured the corporation's employees on His Majesty King Hussein's health and said the King was recovering well in hospital. The Regent was briefed on the corporation's plans to bring to an end the problem of dust emanating from phosphates in the city's port area.

## Cabinet holds meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet approved in a meeting held Tuesday that the Jordanian Investment Corporation transfers to the Treasury 50 per cent of any capital returns achieved as a result of selling some of the corporation's shares in some companies. The decision which was taken upon a recommendation by the finance minister takes effect Jan. 1, 1991. The Cabinet also approved amendments introduced to the Jordanian-Tunisian cultural cooperation programme. These amendments provided for holding theatre festivals in both countries, exchanging visits by theatre experts, boosting cooperation between Jordanian and Tunisian writers and holding art and book exhibitions in both countries. The Cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in Cairo International Festival for Experimental Theatre to be held in September. It decided also to form Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Arab information ministers council which will be held in Cairo Sept. 19-20. The delegation will be headed by Information Minister Mahmoud Al Sharif.

## Transfers, and appointments expected

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government will soon announce new appointments and transfers among government and secretaries-general of ministries, informed sources Tuesday said. The transfers will include the secretaries-general of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and the Ministry of Supply as well as the director general of the Budget Department, the sources said. At least three governors will be retired to be replaced by new appointments, the source said.

## Israeli army sacks 'death squad'

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army has discharged the commander of an undercover unit for issuing unlawful open-fire orders, security sources said Tuesday. The officer, discharging after an investigation by military police, was the third commander of an undercover unit to be fired or to stand trial in less than three years, they added. Israel has repeatedly denied human rights groups' charges that undercover units — known as "death squads" — pursue a shoot-to-kill policy. More than 30 Palestinians have been killed this year by undercover troops, who usually dress as Arabs to catch wanted activists.

# Jordan reports progress towards 'common agenda' in bilateral talks

Combined agency despatches

WASHINGTON — The sixth round of Arab-Israeli bilateral peace negotiations entered its second day here with Jordan reporting progress on its quest to agree on a common agenda with Israel.

"It is not a procedural problem," said Dr. Abdul Salam Majali. "It is a substantial issue," he said, confirming that Israel and Jordan had exchanged views on the subject during Tuesday's meeting.

Dr. Majali, addressing reporters at the State Department, expressed hope that Jordan and Israel could reach agreement on the common agenda "maybe tomorrow" so that discussions could enter a new phase.

Jordanian officials have said that from the very beginning Jordan had tried to pin down the Israelis on a specific set of items and methods related to implementation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 but with little success, given the headline position adopted by the Jewish state under the Yitzhak Shamir government.

The term "common agenda" represents these items and methods and Dr. Majali's com-

ments Tuesday affirmed that the Israeli side was coming around this time to seriously look at what the Kingdom had proposed.

Tuesday's morning talks involved Jordan and Israel and Syria and Israel while Palestinian-Israeli and Lebanese-Israeli meetings were to take place later in the day.

Arabs left the first day of talks on Monday reporting a much more flexible Israeli approach following last month's change of government in Israel (see page 2).

The talks are the first since general elections in Israel swept aside the Shamir government and brought to power Yitzhak Rabin, widely regarded as more flexible than his predecessors.

The Israelis have made a flurry of "concessions" to the Palestinians in the hours before the talks, including cancelling expulsion orders issued against 11 Palestinians in January.

Negotiators from both sides said the opening of the talks Monday had been marked by a "new tone" and better atmosphere than five previous rounds, including the historic Madrid conference that brought Arabs and Israelis to the negotiating table last October for the first time in

almost two decades.

"We... certainly detected a change in style and approach," said Mouwafiq Al Alaf, the head of the Syrian delegation.

"We are very much pleased by the new tone of the negotiations," echoed Israel's chief negotiator, Itamar Rabinovich. Jordan had a similar assessment of what it saw as a "more positive attitude" from the Israelis.

Dr. Majali Monday described the new Israeli suggestions as "more positive than previous proposals."

Jordanian spokesman Marwan Muasher concurred on the improved atmosphere after June elections in Israel.

"The Israelis for the first time talked about a comprehensive settlement, a term they have not used before, and we think that is a positive development," Dr. Muasher said.

Palestinian negotiators arrived late for the talks Monday welcoming the Israeli decision to cancel expulsion orders on 11 Palestinians as "one of the first fruits of the peace process."

"I think it is a positive decision. I think this is one of the first fruits of the peace process per se and

(of) the change of the Israeli government. It is a decision of substance," Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi told reporters.

But a dispute with the Israeli occupation authorities that delayed the Palestinians by two days and warning comments by Israeli spokesman Yossi Gal emphasised the gulf that still separates the two sides.

Mr. Gal went out of his way to dismiss one of the Palestinians' central demands in the talks on autonomy in the occupied territories, that they should elect a self-rule body with full law-making powers.

Mr. Gal told a news briefing elections could be held by next April or May but only "if it is clear to all sides that the negotiations are about an administrative council to run the self-government and not a legislative body as an organ of statehood."

"Let us not forget one basic reality of the Middle East which is the fact that the Palestinians have nothing to lose... they only stand to improve their lot because we are the ones on the giving side."

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## Jordan, PLO stress focus on 242, 338

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Shari' Zeid Ben Shaker Tuesday held talks with a two-member delegation from the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations in Washington.

Mahmoud Abbas and Yasser Abed Rabbo reviewed with the prime minister the course of the negotiations and the two sides reaffirmed the need for the Arab side to demand the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The two sides emphasised the need for continued coordination and cooperation among the Arab parties to the peace negotiations and commitment to interacting with any positive initiative that could give impetus to the peace process and lead to a just and durable settlement.

Mr. Abbas told Petra the meeting reviewed bilateral coordination over issues that might be taken up at the current session in Washington.

"We are awaiting from the Israeli side new initiatives because in the previous five rounds the Arabs had offered initiatives, but were rebuffed by the Israeli government," Mr. Abbas said.

"The Israeli government should offer new initiatives, which we will study together as Arab delegations to offer a joint response," he said.

Mr. Abbas also welcomed Israel's decision to cancel expulsion orders on 11 Palestinians and ease the rules for entry into the occupied territories.

"With no doubt, such moves (are) positive signs and... a good start," Mr. Abbas said. "But this does not mean everything because we fear that the Israeli measures will stop there," Mr. Abbas told reporters.

Referring to the suspended U.S.-PLO dialogue, Mr. Abbas said that there was no indication that it would be revived soon.

Mr. Rabin said Tuesday he wanted to propose in the Washington talks that elections be held for a Palestinian council to administer a limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza by April or May 1993, with timetabled preparatory steps first.

"As an example, by the first of December the system of elections (should be set). By the first of January, the first of February (there should be) agreement on what we are transferring to the administrative council," he said.

Palestinians want it to be legislative in preparation for a future state.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted on Monday as saying the Palestinian uprising, which began in the occupied territories in December 1987, would continue despite the peace talks.

# Israel says it is ready for deal with Syria over Golan Heights

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that Israel was prepared for "territorial compromise" on the Golan Heights in return for a peace treaty with Syria.

Asked if Israel was telling Syria at Middle East peace talks it was prepared to withdraw from parts of the strategic plateau, Mr. Peres told army radio:

"Israel is saying it in the language it decided to say it in, the language of 242."

U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 calls on Israel to trade territory occupied in a 1967 war, which included the Golan Heights, for peace agreements.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin cautioned that Israel's endorsement of Resolution 242 at the peace talks did not commit the Jewish state to giving up the occupied Golan Heights.

An announcement in Washington by Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's new chief negotiator with Syria, that Israel was committed to Resolution 242 drew a positive response from Syria and other Arab delegations.

Mr. Rabin also said he was

satisfied with the start of the sixth round of peace talks, which are expected to go for about a month in Washington, and called on all sides to get down to business.

"I believe that we should try in this round of negotiations... to go to the business of trying to solve the problems, to stop creating issues from who shook hands with another, did we drink coffee together?"

A Syrian newspaper said nothing less than a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights would be accepted by Syria.

"Peace cannot be converted from a sacred cause into a matter for bargaining," Tishreen said in an editorial.

"Peace cannot be a deal nor a partial settlement," Tishreen said.

"The people of the Golan... were not fooled. There is no alternative to a real peace which removes the damage and gives Arabs back their occupied lands."

Tishreen said the latest round of talks will show the intentions of the Rabin government although "the experiences of

Arab delegations during the last five rounds were not encouraging."

Al Baath, newspaper of the ruling party, said the Israeli government was portraying itself as seeking peace but its practices showed the opposite.

"Success or failure depend on this round," Al Baath said. Mr. Rabin said Israel had not given Syria any documents pledging withdrawal from the Golan.

Speaking to reporters at an army base in the occupied West Bank, Mr. Rabin reiterated Labour's position that the solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict should be based on resolutions 242 and 338.

Mr. Rabin was army chief in the 1967 war during which Israel seized Arab East Jerusalem and the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

He cautioned against expecting "miracles and short-cuts," in the peace talks.

"There are a lot of problems to solve in every one of the three parts of the negotiations and it

(Continued on page 5)

# King continues to receive cables and messages of good wishes

## Delegation leaves to visit him in U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — A high-level Jordanian delegation left Tuesday for the United States to congratulate His Majesty King Hussein on the success of the operation which he underwent last Thursday and to wish him a speedy recovery.

The delegation, which is headed by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, includes Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouqan Al Hindawi, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Izzeddin Al Khatib, Al Tamimi, senators Mohammad Rasoul Al Kilani and Birjes Al Hadid, and deputies Mohammad Addouh Al Zaben, Fawzi Tu'aimah, Abdul Rahim Al Eknur and Fares Al Nabulsi.

King Hussein Tuesday received at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, a telephone call from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who congratulated him on the success of the surgery. This was the second call the King receives from Mr. Mubarak since last Thursday.

The Egyptian president also delegated Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S. Ahmad Maher to congratulate His Majesty.

King Hussein received a similar telephone call from Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Mr. Arafat congratulated the King on the success of the surgery and wished him speedy recovery.

King Hussein received also a cable from Iraqi President Sad-

dam Hussein congratulating him on the success of the surgery. "I received with extreme joy news about the success of the surgery which Your Majesty underwent," the Iraqi president said in his cable, wishing the King speedy recovery and continued good health and happiness.

His Majesty received similar cables from Arab League Secretary General Esmat Ahdul Meguid, Qatari Emir Sheikh Khalifa Ben Hamad Al Thani, Qatari Crown Prince Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, Algerian head of state Ali Kafi, the emperor of Japan, the president of China, the head of the Austrian federal-

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# Baghdad describes delay in Western plan as its victory

Combined agency despatches

IRAQ SAID TUESDAY delay in the Western allies' announcement of an exclusion zone to ban Iraqi flights over much of the south was due to its strong resistance.

"Owing to the reality and strength of the Iraqi stand, the West has been compelled to delay plans to declare an exclusion zone," Al Qadisiyah, the Defence Ministry newspaper, said in a front-page headline.

"We will crush the conspiracy against the unity of Iraq's territory and people," it said.

The U.S., Britain and France have delayed announcement of an air exclusion area for further consultation with Arab allies. A U.S. administration official said on Monday the ban on Iraqi air force flights south of the 32nd Parallel was expected no later than Wednesday.

Most Arab countries have voiced concern that the plan could lead to a carve-up of Iraq and destabilise the Middle East.

The Western allies assert the

plan will protect the Shi'ites from Iraqi air attacks.

Iraq says the "no-fly zone" aims at barring central government authority. A similar Western exclusion area north of the 36th Parallel has kept much of Iraqi Kurdistan beyond Baghdad's reach for more than a year.

Al Qadisiyah attributed the West's hesitation to "Iraq's determination to confront plans aimed at dividing it."

Despite the Arab concern, President George Bush is expected to announce soon the enforcement of the ban on military flights over southern Iraq.

An administration official accompanying Mr. Bush on a campaign stop in Connecticut on Monday, said an announcement on the plan was expected "on either Tuesday or Wednesday."

The announcement had been planned for Tuesday, "but that may not be the case now," said the official without further comment.

A U.S. admiral said in the Gulf Tuesday Iraqi warplanes which defy the proposed "no-fly zone"

will probably be shot down in

sight without warning.

"I would guess that if the scenario plays out the way it is envisaged now they would be given an adequate warning by diplomatic notice not to fly in that particular area," Rear Admiral Brent Bennett told reporters on the aircraft carrier USS Independence.

"To me that would be sufficient warning. I wouldn't anticipate any warning shots," he said.

The Defence Department said Iraq appears to have removed all fixed-wing warplanes and some attack helicopters from southern Iraq.

Pentagon spokesman Bob Hall said Iraqi fixed-wing warplanes had been removed "in the last few days" from the area south of the 32nd Parallel.

The Pentagon said last week that some 30 Iraqi fixed-wing warplanes, including SU-25 Soviet-built attack jets, and an estimated 40 military helicopters were in the region south of the

(Continued on page 5)

## Mohammad Kamal passes away

AMMAN (J.T.) — Member of the Upper House of Parliament and former Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Mohammad Kamal passed away early Tuesday at Al Hussein Medical Centre, he was 76.

Family sources said that Mr. Kamal suffered a stroke three months ago and developed paralysis on the right side for which he was undergoing treatment.

Mr. Kamal was born in Nablus on the West Bank in 1916. He obtained a B.A. degree in science from the American University of Beirut and later studied law in Jerusalem during the British mandate in Palestine.

Mr. Kamal served in British-ruled Palestine as controller of the publications department and later taught at Khaddour College in Tulkarim in the West Bank.

He was appointed director general of Jordan Television in November 1966, a post which he held for 18 years.

Mr. Kamal was appointed Jordan's ambassador to the United States in 1986. His term ended two years ago and he was made member of the Upper House.

Mr. Kamal is survived by four boys and two girls and a wife. He will be laid to rest Thursday.

## Palestinian team to multilaterals arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A Palestinian delegation of 25 experts in water, environment, refugees and economic development has arrived in Amman. Delegation member Samir Khalileh said Tuesday the delegation held several extensive meetings to prepare a Palestinian strategy to be discussed at the multilateral talks. Dr. Khalileh said coordination meetings between the Palestinian and Jordanian delegations to the multilateral talks would be held in Amman in the next few days.

# Senior leaders to seek peace in Kabul

KABUL (R) — Two senior members of Afghanistan's ruling leadership council announced Tuesday they would go to Kabul to negotiate an end to fighting between rebel Mujahadeen and Afghan government forces that has killed thousands.

Hundreds of Kabul residents streamed out of the capital, taking advantage of a lull in rocketing of the centre while hard-line Hezb-e-Islami fighters fought battles with government troops in the battered southern suburbs.

Shops opened briefly in the Afghan capital, a rubble-strewn ghost town after more than two weeks of blistering exchanges of rocket and artillery fire between the two sides.

Vice-President Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi and Yunus Khalis, leader of a Hezb splinter faction, plan to go to Kabul in a snrnnnding province on Wednesday, officials said.

"God willing, there will be a breakthrough," a spokesman for Mr. Mohammadi said by telephone from the Pakistani border town of Peshawar.

"We want a complete ceasefire and reconciliation between them to establish an Islamic government," the Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) quoted Mr. Khalis as saying.

Mr. Khalis and the moderate Mohammad sit on the leadership council, an uneasy coalition of 10 Mujahadeen parties set up when

the guerrillas took power from the communists in Kabul after a 14-year war of resistance.

"The intensity of fire belies our hopes to some extent," cautioned a government official visiting Islamabad.

The two veteran Mujahadeen leaders had received acceptance to a letter to President Burhanuddin Rabbani and fundamentalist Hezb leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, also a member of the leadership council, asking if they were ready to sign a peace treaty.

"We received a positive reply from every side," AIP quoted Mr. Khalis as saying. A site fir talks has yet to be set.

Dzens of non-embattant casualties have been reported in rocket bombardments over the last three days, swelling a death toll that has reached more than 1,800 in just two weeks.

It was unclear whether Mr. Hekmatyar had set conditions. He has repeatedly insisted on withdrawal of formerly communist militia, now integrated with government troops, from the city.

"It is difficult to read his mind and what he means by peace," the official said. "What he says he does not mean." Mr. Hekmatyar offered on Monday to declare a ceasefire and hand over his heavy weapons to the Islamic army if the government withdrew the militia and held elections.

Diplomats dismissed Mr. Hek-

(Continued on page 5)

## VERY SOON

the opening of the biggest park and restaurants in the Middle East

WACAN SHAHRYAR  
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Tel. 713503





## Kurds appeal for U.N. intervention in Turkey

11:30	Karachi (PI)	09:15	Beirut (ME)
11:30	Jeddah (SU)	12:30	Sana'a (YU)
12:30	Sana'a (YU)	13:00	Jeddah (SU)
12:30	Cairo (ME)	14:15	Cairo (MS)
13:05	Sharjah, Abu Dhabi (GF)	14:30	Abu Dhabi, Beirut (GF)
14:00	Paris, Damascus (AF)	21:45	Karachi (PI)
14:00	Damascus (PI)		
16:35	Beirut (ME)		

DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights	
(Terminal 1)	
05:00	Madrid (AJ)
07:20	Damascus (RJ)
08:20	Rome (RJ)
11:00	Beirut, London (RJ)
11:30	Cairo (RJ)
13:45	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
13:45	Istanbul (RJ)
13:50	Cairo (RJ)
15:00	Columbo (RJ)
21:00	Riyadh (RJ)
21:30	Dhahran (RJ)
21:30	New Delhi (RJ)
22:30	Casablanca, Bangkok (RJ)
22:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
03:45	Sana'a (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
07:00	

MARKET PRICES	
<i>Upper/lower price is for per kg.</i>	
Apple (red)	530/320
Bananas	500/450
Bananas (Mekansaw)	550/500
Beans	480/300
Cabbage	100/50
Carrot	250/200
Cauliflower	240/180
Cucumbers (large)	120/80
Cucumbers (small)	230/180
Eggplant	90/30
Garlic	350/450
Lemon	600/300
Mintrow (large)	150/100
Mintrow (small)	320/160
Onion (dry)	130/90
Onion (green)	150/100
Peanut	600/500
Peas	600/300
Pepper (hot)	220/160
Pepper (sweet)	150/100
Potato	180/120
Sweet Melon	100/120



## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jordan to operate Yemeni hospital

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Aref Bataineh announced Tuesday that the Yemeni government has requested Jordan to equip, operate and assume the management of an integrated hospital recently built in the southern Yemeni city of Aden. A Jordanian delegation of doctors and specialists will travel to Aden in the coming few days to inspect the hospital, described to be one of the most modern yet in Yemen, said the minister in a lecture organised by the Rotary Club at Philadelphia Hotel. The delegation will determine the requirements of new hospitals' medical and health staff, surgical operation theatres and other facilities.

### UNDP, minister review social services

AMMAN (Petra) — Social Development Minister Amin Masbagueh Tuesday met with the representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Amman, Othman Hashem. The meeting discussed the social services the ministry provides for citizens as well as its programmes and goals. Dr. Masbagueh and Mr. Hashem discussed cooperation between the ministry and the UNDP.

### Arab Child Day to focus on family issues

AMMAN (Petra) — The Preparatory Committee for the Arab Child Day held a meeting Tuesday at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) under the chairmanship of NHF Director Inaam Al Muti to discuss arrangements for the Arab Child Week to start Oct. 5. The committee decided to focus on family affairs, and problems in bringing up children. It stressed the role of the media in familiarising the public with the activities of the week in which various governmental and private institutions will participate.

### Student acceptances to be announced

AMMAN (Petra) — The list of students who will be admitted to Jordanian universities as of next semester will be announced next week, the executive director of the committee in charge of coordinating admission of students to universities said Tuesday. Dr. Abdul Hameed Sabbagh said the committee is now adding to the list names of students who will be admitted under the Royal Endowment Programme. The number of students who applied for the four government universities this year has reached 19,500 while the four universities can admit only 11,950.

### JNRCS deputy director leaves for Geneva

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Director of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Mohammad Mideq Al Hadid left Amman for Geneva Tuesday on a several-day working visit. Dr. Hadid will meet during his visit with the president of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent League for talks on the prospect of establishing a regional office for the federation in Amman.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### Exhibitions

- ★ Art exhibition by Lebanese artist Basma Blouk at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Grace Ghannouchi Kheif at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ramzi Al Sayyed at Baladna Art Gallery.

## Regent receives Swiss envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday received a Swiss presidential envoy who delivered to him a message addressed to His Majesty King Hussein from the president of the Swiss Federation dealing with the outcome of the Earth Summit held in Brazil in June this year.

Mr. Pierre Yves Simonin, who arrived in Amman Monday evening, was also expected to meet with Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber and Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Abdul Razzak Tubeishat to discuss the creation of a U.N.-sponsored committee to deal with issues, related to sustainable development as proposed by the Earth Summit.

The Jordan news Agency, said that the Swiss envoy expressed his government and people's good wishes for the King's speedy recovery and discussed with the Regent scopes of bilateral cooperation, particularly in environment related issues.

## Campaign against Iraq draws further condemnation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman-based Palestine National Council (PNC) Tuesday voiced its "deep concern and total astonishment" at statements hostile to Iraq (made) by some Arab countries and the United States.

A PNC statement said that the hostile campaign was part of a plot designed to partition Iraq and to stir dissension and sectarian violence among its people with the aim of dismembering the nation.

The statement, signed by PNC Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, said that Iraq remains a sovereign Arab state and one of the most prominent members of the Arab League. It said, "Iraq is an Arab country on which the Arab Nation depends for all questions pertaining to national causes and Islam and for defending the Arab and Islamic causes."

"The U.S.-led hostile campaign on Iraq is clearly aimed at destroying that country," the statement said.

"The PNC is keen on supporting Iraq's unity and sovereignty and calls on all Arab and Islamic peoples and parliaments to rally to Iraq's support in the face of the hostile plans," said the statement.

The statement was referring to a U.S.-led campaign to create what is called a "no-fly zone"



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, meets Tuesday with Swiss presidential envoy Pierre Yves Simonin (Petra photo)

over southern Iraq. The plans were delayed because of widespread Arab concern that it could lead to the country's dismemberment.

The General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW) also condemned the plan. In a statement issued Tuesday, GFJW said "what Britain, France and the United States are planning is a flagrant violation of United Nations rules and Charter and is aimed at partitioning Iraq in a bid to cause further splits in the Arab World and creating more tension in the region."

The statement said that the Iraqi people can foil all such "conspiracies being hatched against them and looks for a support from" the Arab people. The Jordan Press Association (JPA) condemned as "colonial plots" U.S. plans to establish the air exclusion zone in southern Iraq.

The (JPA) urged all public organisations and the media to confront the plots and expose them to the world. Various Jordanian organisations had already condemned the move and the Jordanian government issued a statement denouncing the Western plan to set up an air exclusion zone in southern Iraq as an attempt to infringe on the sovereignty of Iraq.

ment of human resources.

Switzerland seeks to host the proposed committee in Geneva, according to Petra. The agency said the committee will be formally established during the U.N. General Assembly meetings next month.

## House recesses, fails to hold last session

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Tuesday failed to secure a quorum for holding a scheduled session, the last in the current extraordinary session, and will recess Wednesday without finishing its debate of the draft press and publication law.

Deputy Speaker of the House Abdul Karim Al Dughmi said there was no quorum for holding the session because many deputies were either outside the country or on leaves of absence.

A Royal Decree adjourning the current extraordinary session was read out on Monday's session of the House.

The House will resume its debate of the draft press and publication law when it reconvenes in Nov. 1.

### Correction

In the story titled, "New Polyester Factory Established in Jordan Valley," published on Monday, the Jordan Times inadvertently reported that the factory in question would produce polyester crates, and that Jordan exports 500 tonnes of agricultural produce annually. The truth is that the factory would be producing plastic crates and Jordan exports 500,000 tonnes of agricultural produce.

## Greek Orthodox Church comes under fire for alleged malpractice

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Alleged malpractices by the Greek Orthodox Church leaders in Jerusalem and their reported excesses with regard to church estate will come under scrutiny at a general meeting to be held at the Parliament building in Amman Thursday.

Parliament Member Fakhri Kassar has called for the meeting, during which a panel will present documents and information related to what is alleged to be abuse of authority in connection with lands and buildings owned by the Greek Orthodox community in Palestine in general and in the city of Jerusalem in particular.

In a statement distributed here Tuesday, Mr. Kassar said that the documents clearly show excesses by the Jerusalem-based Greek Patriarch of the Orthodox Church and called for an all out effort to put an end to such practices and Christian property and land in Palestine.

In his statement, Mr. Kassar noted that there was need for speedy action to stop such excesses and the process of destroying

Arab estate or selling it to the "enemy".

"Any tampering with the Arab lands and rights, whether Christian or Islamic in Palestine," he said, "would adversely affect the Arab cause in Palestine and would encourage the Israelis to pursue their settlement policies in Jerusalem, which has been protected by the Muslims and Christians over the past ages."

One of the most prominent members of the Orthodox community in Jordan, Dr. Raouf Abu Jaber, told the Jordan Times that Greek Church leaders, including the patriarch, were abusing their authority and the time has come to put an end to such excesses.

Dr. Abu Jaber, who is chairman of the Orthodox Arab Society in Jordan, demanded that Jordanian law number 27, issued in 1958, be amended in a manner that would safeguard the rights of the community of the Greek Orthodox Church in Jordan and Palestine.

He said the initiative for the Thursday meeting in Amman came from a special committee called the Arab Orthodox Initiative Committee, which was set up in the occupied territories, to

bring to an end the Greek clergy's domination of the fate of the Arab community in Palestine and Jordan.

The number of the Orthodox community in Jordan and Palestine is estimated at 200,000. Their religious affairs and church estate are handled by what is called the Holy Sepulchre Brotherhood, which has 94 members, all of whom are Greek except for two Arab citizens, said Dr. Abu Jaber.

Dr. Abu Jaber said that the Greek Orthodox community is now seeking a speedy amendment to the 1958 law on the Greek Orthodox Church in a bid to protect Arab rights and interests.

Dr. Abu Jaber provided the Jordan Times with a copy of a document of a lease of church estate concluded between the Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros and Goldfan Holdings of Israel through its chairman Mr. Murray Goldman.

The lease document pinpoints that exact plots of land and buildings where the Israeli firm (the lease holders) can erect buildings or other facilities.

## RJ lures new business

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Technical Department at the Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) is providing maintenance services to an increasing number of Arab and international airlines, Royal Jordanian (RJ) Vice President for Technical Affairs Zeid Kilani has said.

Despite strong competition from international maintenance centres in Europe and the Arab World, QAIA facilities had won a number of contracts for aircraft

maintenance work, Mr. Kilani told Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tuesday.

He said the facilities have conducted maintenance work on Yemeni, American and Nigerian aircraft and is offering similar services to Boeing planes owned by an Egyptian company.

Under an agreement with Yemenia and Royal Jordanian Airlines, 20 Yemenia employees are receiving maintenance training in QAIA facilities.

## 62 Jordanian firms display products in Damascus fair

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sixty-two Jordanian industries will display their products in Damascus International Fair, which will open in the Syrian capital on Aug. 28.

The Jordan Development and Commercial Centres Corporation (JEDCO), which is organising the Jordanian pavilion in the fair, said Tuesday Jordanian firms "will display a variety of industrial products."

JEDCO said that the participation is aimed at acquainting the Syrian public with Jordan's products and to promoting Jordan's exports to other countries.

The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) is taking part in the annual fair for the first time, displaying embroideries, tricot, woolen clothes and other handicrafts, made by the local community centres set up by cooperatives in the Kingdom.

## New vocational school opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — A new school for graphics, which was established by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Italian government will start receiving students during the current school year. Director of Vocational Training Department at the Ministry of Education Ali Nasrallah said Tuesday.

The school will initially accept 80 students but will later admit 50 others, he said.

Mr. Nasrallah, who visited Italy this year to prepare for the opening of the school, said that 14 Jordanian teachers from the Ministry of Education have acquired training courses to assume their jobs at the school.

The Jordanian and Italian governments signed an agreement in 1987 to set up the school to be financed by Italy and operated by the ministry.

## 'I Dream a World' of justice

By Laney Salisbury  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I Dream a World" photography exhibit captures the stirring stories of 76 black American women who, through strength and determination, conquered racial and gender barriers and changed America.

Pioneers, performers and legends of the civil rights movement come together in the images by Pulitzer prize-winning photojournalist Brian Lanker. With a lens, Mr. Lanker freezes the hidden strength of women who opened the door to medicine, music, education and freedom not just to blacks but to Irish, Italians and other nationalities and races forming America.

At the American Centre Gallery, the diminutive mould of Rosa Parks stands with the power and stance of a judge, her long bony hands resting firmly on a wooden railing. It was this woman's refusal to give up her seat on an Alabama bus in 1955 that ignited the civil rights movement where demonstrations for freedom drummed from the polished halls of the White House to the mouldy classroom walls of Mississippi.

By 1957 the American Congress approved the first civil rights bill for blacks to protect voting rights, sit-ins in the sixties, Martin Luther King's "I have a Dream" speech and the omnibus civil rights bill in 1964 further toppled apartheid's pillars.

But the images are not just of the well-known.

Mr. Lanker portrays the hard lines and sad eyes of the unsmiling workers — the surgeons, singers and survivors who overcame racism and poverty and took mighty steps across the stage of America.

In their communities, these women too! scruffy kids off the streets and put them in schools or battled polio to go on and hook the first American Olympic gold.

Others with silken voices sang the blues from the porches of communities to the crowds of Broadway. Women, like author Toni Morrison and poet Margaret Alexander, weaved bestsellers, ever expanding the legacy of this segment of society defined by its weakest elements.

In black and white tones, the portraits are haunting but also inspiring and uplifting. With



"They say you should not suffer through the past. You should be able to wear it like a loose garment, take it off and let it drop," — Eva Jesse

short captions, the photos suggest boundless determination and the patience of a predator waiting for its prey.

Eva Jesse, a prominent choral group director, sleeps slumped with a cane on a piano bench. The curve in her back contrasts with the sharp lines of a piano, emphasising fatigue from a day of practice and a lifetime of beating the odds.

"I used to have an awful time travelling with my group. White people didn't want to accommodate you. I never thought it would be like this now."

"They say you should not suffer through the past. You should be able to wear it like a loose garment, take it off and let it drop," she says.

Other images portrays humil-

ity, as Clara McBride Hale, who opened a house for babies of drug-addicted mothers. Standing in a slum New York City street, she cradles a child as a broken fire hydrant gushes water and a man decked in black and sunglasses skulls behind.

"I'm hoping that one day there will be no Hale House, that we won't need anybody to look after these children, that the drugs will be gone."

"I'm not an American hero, I'm a person that loves children," she says.

Other voices and images invoke perseverance.

"There was myth across the South, that the only two free people were the white male and the black woman, and that black women had better chances at jobs. Well, that was because they

scrubbed floors," said Dorothy Height, profiled against a monument with outstretched hands in modest benediction.

Mrs. Douglas has been president of the National Councils of Negro Women since 1957.

Quoting black orator Frederick Douglass, she continued: "In the struggle for justice the only reward is the opportunity to be in the struggle." You can't expect that you're going to have it tomorrow. You just have to keep working on it."

"I Dream a World" is an exhibit for all, especially those who still dream of justice in the Middle East, freedom in South Africa and true equality in America — the people who believe in never taking a step backward or you will never stop running. Show ends Aug. 28.

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,  
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## Return to 242

YEDIOTH AHRONOTH, Israel's largest circulation daily, reported Monday that Israel was poised to declare its acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 during the ongoing peace talks in Washington. If this piece of news turns out to be true then that policy decision could be the beginning of a new round of meaningful negotiations between Israel and the Arabs whose ultimate objective is to attain lasting peace and stability in the whole region of the Middle East. What still needs to be examined is whether the new government of Yitzhak Rabin subscribes to the internationally recognised interpretation of Resolution 242. Clearly accepting a lopsided construction of SCR 242 would nullify any significance to the formal acceptance of the resolution. Judging by what Yedioth Ahronoth has printed, Israel's chief delegate to the Syrian-Israeli peace talks is authorised to inform his Syrian counterpart that Israel is prepared to withdraw from only parts of the Golan Heights, the West Bank and Gaza Strip in return for a peace treaty with its Arab neighbours. If this is Israel's interpretation of 242, then the projected Israeli official announcement of its recognition and acceptance of U.N. resolutions would merely be a shallow adherence to legitimacy. Since this could easily backfire, or at least reflect badly on the peace process, the Arab negotiating teams meeting in Washington are called upon to gauge the real intentions of Israel on the issue of withdrawal from occupied territories be they in the Golan Heights, Lebanon or the West Bank and Gaza. It is widely accepted that any ultimate resolution of the territorial issue between Israel and the Arab parties to the peace parleys would envisage some minor border rectification in order to make them easier to delineate and protect. This much the Arab side has already conceded provided that such border changes are not carried out at the expense of only one party or country. It is further admitted that confidence-building measures by both sides would in turn render the border issue less problematical and the need for major territorial concessions that much less pressing. The main thing now is to construct on the edifice of Israel's preparedness to pursue the peace process on the basis of resolutions 242 and 338 by first making sure that the full import of these resolutions is well preserved. Meanwhile both sides of the fence should strive to establish a climate conducive to peace in order to open the way for the correct interpretation of these two basic international decisions. That is why this current round of peace negotiations is of such immense importance. What is at stake is not only the hypothetical or real difference between Rabin and Shamir on the peace process but also the direction of the entire search for a just and permanent solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Having reached a major crossroads, the peace talks in Washington can now go either way. The clearer the Israeli intentions the better the chances to turn the sixth round into a major launching pad for all future peace talks. Jordanian and Syrian spokespersons have already detected a change of tone on the part of the Israeli negotiating teams. And the Jordanian spokesman has also stated that there has been an "explicit" references to Resolution 242 by the Israeli negotiators in a manner more consistent with international law. As such this is a good and encouraging development that can only bode well for the chances of peace.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IT IS important for the Arabs to enter into negotiations, to abort any foreign nation's attempts to partition Iraq, because the breakup of Iraq would mean the demise of the whole Arab World, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. The paper said that instead of going to Washington, the Syrians, the Jordanians, the Lebanese and the Palestinians ought to sit together and come up with a joint effort to thwart the U.S.-led campaign for fragmenting the Arab states. Should the Western colonial powers succeed in their plot, Iraq would be isolated from the rest of the Arab World and its departure, like that of Egypt in 1979 when it signed the peace treaty with Israel, would mean further weakening of the Arab Nation, said the daily. The paper focused its attack in particular on Britain which, it said, has been advocating the aggression on Iraq and encouraging the U.S. to partition that country to attain its own, selfish interests in the region. It is Britain which had divided and ruled the Arab World for so long but went out from the region in an ignominious manner, said the paper. It said that Britain, which has brought about so much misery to the Arab World and lost its empire, was trying to make a comeback through aggression and through collusion with the U.S. and France. The paper said that the Arab children should be taught never to forget this hatred and malice displayed by London against the Arabs as the day will come when the real confrontation is due to take place and when the Arab wrath will turn the tables on the colonialists.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Tuesday criticised the government and the Lower House of Parliament for approving the articles of the press and publications draft law in a manner which, he said, is considered detrimental to the interests of journalists. In general and those unregistered with the press association in particular, Issa Shueibi said that the draft law was more rigorous and stringent than the existing one, closing the door completely in the face of any development in the press association itself and making it more difficult for journalists to perform their task. The government is to blame for having presented amendments, which the journalists considered to be more harmful to their interests, as are the Parliament members for taking a hardened position with regard to the journalists who are unregistered with the press association, said Shueibi. The writer said that even those registered as members of the association are disgusted by certain articles which they consider as impeding their work and they have already expressed concern over this situation. Those protesting before Parliament two days ago have all the right to be heard and their grievances addressed by the House, he said.

# Being whatever it takes to win election

By Michael Kelly

It's going to be a crowded autumn.

There are, as far as can be seen, through the fog, four serious candidates for the presidency. On the Democratic side, there is Bill Clinton, the big-government, tax-crazy, special interests-loving, old-fashioned liberal; and Bill Clinton, the covenant-building, moderate-minded, stand-up-to-the-interest-groups New Democrat. The Republicans have put forward George Bush, the vacillating, pawn-of-the-rich, inside Washington, country-clubbing middle-of-the-roader who wants everything to stay just the way it is; and George Bush, the arch-conservative, deeply religious, tax-cutting Washington-bashing architect of bold new change.

This embarrassment of candidates was nearly inevitable. Men who want to be president, and the men and women whose job it is to get them there, are, despite their predilection for the language of idealism, strictly in the realism business. They do, as Mr. Bush has famously noted, whatever it takes. And what it takes, it has become increasingly clear, is a campaign of relentless, comprehensive distortion.

As the Republicans convened in Houston last week the NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw offered an observation on the way journalists have come to cover political campaigns:

"The news cycle has become a 24-hour-a-day thing, and it moves very fast all the time now. What happens is that a fragment of information, true or false, gets sucked into the cycle early in the morning, and once it gets into the cycle it gets whipped around to

the point that it has gravitas by the end of the day. And, unfortunately, people are so busy chasing that fragment of information that they treat it as a fact, forgetting about whether it is true or not.

The professionals of politics know that Mr. Brokaw is correct, and bank on it. In a time of information overwhelm, with the electoral process uncontrolled by party discipline and with the fates of candidates almost utterly dependent on the whims of passing public perception, they understand that the essential daily achievement of the candidate is to do himself right, and his opponent wrong, by that day's flow of pictures and words.

The flow is so fast, and so endless, that it is impossible for most voters (and for most journalists) to examine its contents except by occasional, shallow dips in the edge of the stream. The result is the campaign of 1992, which, although it still has months to go, has already reached new levels of manipulation of truth. On both the Republican and Democratic sides, the candidates and their campaign staffs are relentless in their efforts to idealise themselves and to demonise each other.

Indeed, this dual task was the only important goal of both the Democratic nominating convention held in New York last month and the Republican gathering in Houston. In both cases, the goal was achieved superbly.

Thus, Mr. Clinton, in the course of his party's nominating convention, and in the weeks since, has drawn a picture of himself as the exemplar of a new

breed of Democrats that knows how to say no to constituency groups, is tough on defence, serious about cutting government spending and opposed to radical notions of any sort. There is evident truth in this portrait; the Arkansas governor is a charter member of the Democratic Leadership Council, the centrist group dedicated to these propositions, and his record as governor shows that he consistently has favoured the centrist, compromise approach.

In the 1992 campaign, Mr. Clinton has advocated reforming the welfare system to oblige able recipients to work and establishing boot camps that would offer "barsh punishment" to juvenile criminals.

While he has supported legal abortion, he has suggested that states should have the right to impose some limits on abortions, and has argued that the government should do what it can "to make it as rare as possible."

He has angered some black political leaders with his (rather gentle) admonitions to black audiences on the necessity for self discipline and a sense of responsibility.

In the crucial matters of his economic plan and his party platform, said a leading policy expert of the left who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he did not want to represent the view of any party faction, Mr. Clinton has "put forward the most progressive agenda since 1972, put forward under a smoke screen that this was the most moderate Democratic convention and the most moderate Democratic platform ever."

Mr. Clinton has promised to redistribute wealth by raising taxes on the rich, to double the rate of cutting the military budget, to invest huge sums in creating jobs by building roads and bridges, to hugely increase education spending, to fully fund Head Start, to provide national health care for everyone and paid for in part by new taxes and to give poor families tax credits.

Several consultants on Democratic policy called it the most progressive redistribution-of-wealth plan since the campaign of George S. McGovern.

Similarly, Mr. Clinton's campaign has in recent weeks put forward an image of his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, as a cookie-baking, home-making, old-fashioned candidate's spouse, preferring to ignore her long and substantive career as a lawyer, liberal legal philosopher and advocate of profound change in the legal status and rights of children.

Building on these aspects of Mr. Clinton's views and life, Mr. Bush and his operatives will spend the next several months, as they have spent the past several days, working to create an opponent of nightmarish proportions — a sort of Bill Dukakis-Carter-McGovern-Clinton.

A classic and important example can be found in the Republicans' charge — employed by many during the convention week, including Mr. Bush himself — that Mr. Clinton had raised taxes and fees 128 times in his home state of Arkansas.

As the columnist Michael Kinley detailed in a recent report, the

figure of 128 is false, based on mickery like counting taxes more than once, counting components of certain taxes as separate taxes in themselves, and including a number of minor fee increases that are a routine and inevitable feature of all governments. The accounting also fails to mention tax cuts enacted during Mr. Clinton's tenure as governor, or to note that Arkansas, a poor state, ranks 47th among the states in terms of the taxes it imposes as a share of personal income.

Mr. Bush's attempts to rework his self-portrait have been far more ambitious and more elaborate than Mr. Clinton's; their scope is breathtaking at times.

A president whose primary interest has been foreign affairs, Mr. Bush now depicts himself as a visionary of domestic change frustrated by a Democratic-controlled Congress. The son of a United States senator, a child of wealth and privilege, the product of Andover Yale and Greenwich, Connecticut, he styles himself as a man of down-home Texas country. A career public official who has spent most of his adult life in appointive or elected office in Washington, he now runs — and rails — against the bureaucrats and politicians of the Federal city.

An instinctive moderate who earned the enmity of religious and values-oriented conservatives in his first term, he now runs on a "family values" agenda that the supporters of conservatives like Pat Buchanan and Pat Robertson regard as their own. The signatory of a tax increase that broke the defining promise of his 1988

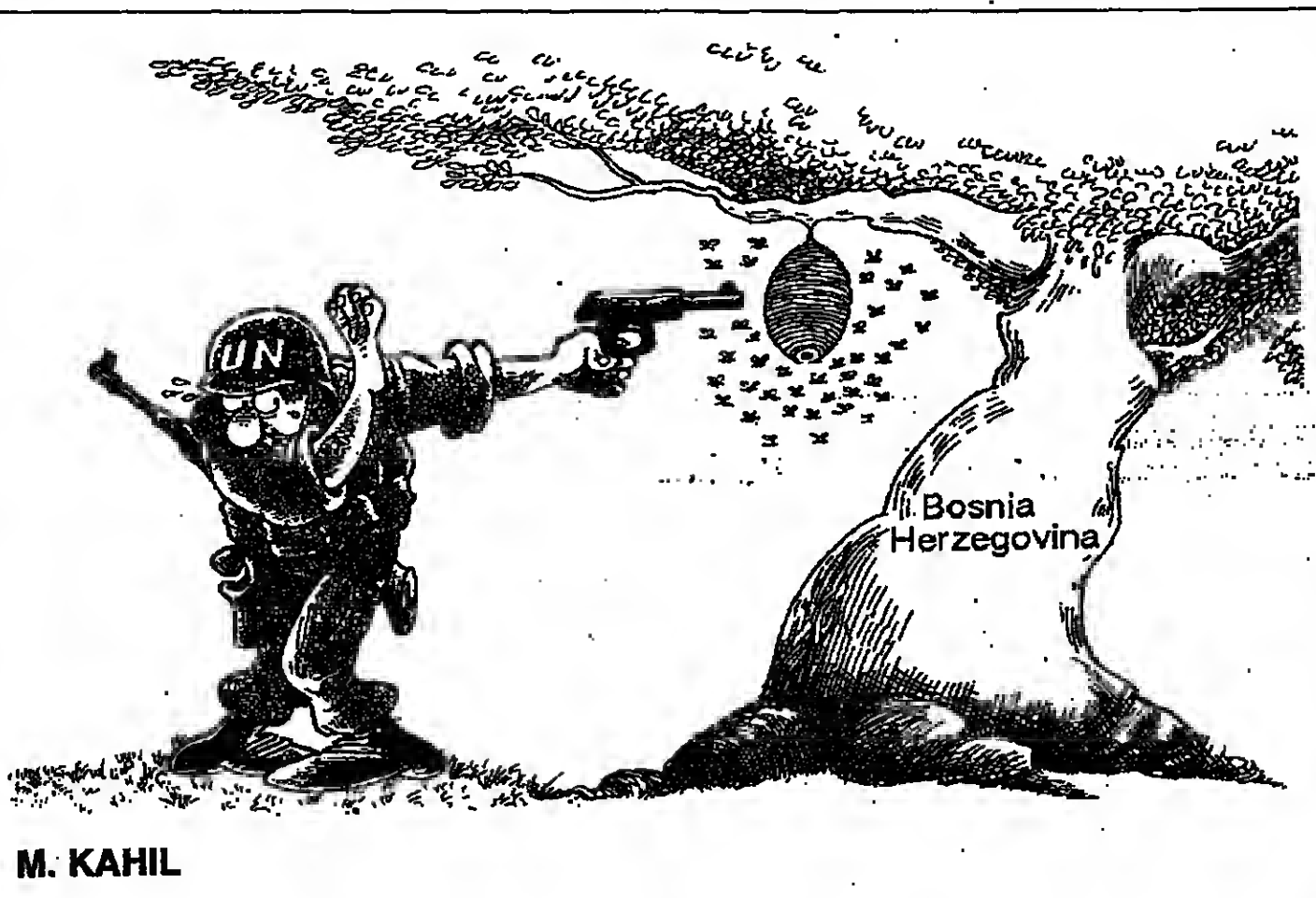
presidential candidacy, he now places the blame for that increase entirely on Congress, and promises a new tax cut if reelected.

## The Bush bogeyman

With ammunition like that, Mr. Clinton finds it a simple matter to mold from the stuff of Mr. Bush's record and life a counterpart to the Republican Clinton-bogey, a George Hoover-McCarthy-Goldwater-Bush. The Bush-bogeyman, to hear Mr. Clinton tell it, is an irresponsible do-nothing president who is solely to blame for all that is wrong with the country, and gets no credit for anything that is right. The America Mr. Clinton conjures of the Reagan-Bush years seems a country of such dark, dismal misery as to be at times unrecognisable to one who lived in it.

It is a political given that both candidates will continue on this course; it has worked too well for them not to. Mr. Clinton's convention, with its days of praise for himself and its days of denigration of Mr. Bush, took him from well behind in the polls to far ahead. Mr. Bush's convention, which exceeded even Mr. Clinton in both puffery and calumny, seems to have brought him back on par with his rival.

Neither the mythical candidates of self-creation nor the bogeymen of the other side will be real, but reality-based. And, in the age of the docu-drama, that will be good enough for one of them to win — The New York Times.



## Spain's Socialists struggle to cash in on banner year

By Keith Grant  
Reuter

MADRID — It's a bumper year for Spain but the ruling Socialists seem unable to reap political dividends from the Barcelona Olympics or the big Expo in Seville.

Although Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez denies it, speculation is growing that he may call early elections. This government's popularity is sliding under a worsening economy and his party fears for the impact on voters.

Opinion polls this month show one in two Spaniards has little confidence in Mr. Gonzalez and that the government's seeming loss of control of the economy is to blame.

Much of this has to do with an emergency tax increase to meet a budget deficit that ballooned 119 per cent in the first seven months. Taxpayers began to feel the pinch in their August pay packets.

Mr. Gonzalez, in an interview this month with the Wall Street Journal, said he felt the government still had political leeway for unpopular measures though admitted it faces a bumpy ride.

The credibility of his economic team has plunged. Growth this year is now seen as less than two per cent, well below the 3.3 per cent the government was forecasting last year, and inflation stubbornly refuses to come down. It stood at 5.2 per cent in July.

The opposition centre-right Popular Party (PP) is so convinced of an early poll that it has put its election machinery into full swing and is preparing candi-



Felipe Gonzalez

date lists.

In the normally quiet holiday month of August, PP leader Jose Maria Aznar has suddenly shifted into campaign mode, aware that the economic crisis may provide his best opportunity yet to catch up with the Socialists, in power for more than 10 years.

"In the near future I will have the obligation as prime minister to resolve the economic crisis," Mr. Aznar said last week, adding that he would not be surprised if elections were called before the end of the year.

The last elections, held eight months ahead of schedule in October 1989, were won by the Socialists with 39.6 per cent of the vote to the PP's 25.8 per cent. The next election is due by October 1993.

Some opposition leaders see a poll early next year. They say Mr. Gonzalez could dissolve parliament in December and have three months to improve his party's image. Such a theory sees him rolling back this month's tax hike just in time for the vote.

The outside betting is that Mr. Gonzalez will call elections in the next two or three months, to make the most of Spain's 1992 fervour before the economy deteriorates too far, and win a mandate for tough economic decisions ahead.

Mr. Gonzalez's party fear Mr. Gonzalez's policies are straying from Socialist goals of improved income distribution and that voters could be seriously alienated by October next year.

A survey last month in El Pais newspaper gave them 28.1 per cent popular backing, after peaking at 37.7 per cent last September while the PP climbed to 18.6 per cent from a low of 13.7 per cent in July 1990. Half of those surveyed saw the economy in bad to very bad shape.

Mr. Aznar claims the Spanish Socialist Party's (PSOE) lead has been cut to 800,000 votes from 2.8 million at the last election and that the ruling party is hopelessly divided.

PSOE leaders admit internal differences on present policies and whether to bring forwards elections. Rumours have been surfaced that Mr. Gonzalez may not stand. But Foreign Minister Javier Solana said, "I see him full of energy and determined to continue driving this country forward."

But for Mr. Gonzalez's enduring personal popularity the Socialists would be hard-pressed to combat the growing malaise. This contrasts with a common image abroad of a politically stable country enjoying comparatively high economic growth.

At the heart of the Socialists' dilemma is Mr. Gonzalez's commitment to boosting Spain onto the European bandwagon. That task means cutting inflation through economic sacrifices, which inevitably mean lower growth — and loss of votes.

Mr. Gonzalez's pugnacious economy minister, Carlos Solchaga, has openly feuded with PSOE Deputy Secretary-General Alfonso Guerra over economic policy. Mr. Solchaga lost a battle last year for a restrictive 1992 budget, which in large part explains today's economic crisis.

Adding to the Socialists' headaches are new allegations of corruption, renewed Basque separatist violence and financial problems at Seville's Expo 92 which have contrasted heavily with the highly-successful Olympic games organised by the Catalans.

Yet for all the Socialist Party's problems, the PP has yet to show it is capable of wresting electoral victory.

The same El Pais survey had the PP's Mr. Aznar a distant second to Mr. Gonzalez in national leader preferences. Some political observers see Mr. Aznar, a 39-year-old lawyer and former tax inspector, as an unconvincing and uncharismatic David to Mr. Gonzalez's Goliath and under pressure to make an impact.

## Failure has dogged Yugoslavia peace talks

By Patrick Worsnip  
Reuter

LONDON — A major Yugoslavia peace conference that opens here on today... will be overshadowed by the failure of more than a year of efforts by the world community to prevent or stop Europe's worst conflict since World War II.

Almost by itself, the Yugoslav civil war has sunk hopes of a "new world order" of peace and progress proclaimed by U.S. President George Bush following the collapse of communism and the allied victory over Iraq in the Gulf war.

Yugoslavia attracted and defeated the initiatives of every single authority available to the international community," says analyst John Zameceta in a pamphlet just published by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies.

"The much heralded new world order appeared a farcical proposition in the light of the Yugoslav experience."

The war in Yugoslavia was one of the most widely predicted of recent times as rival ethnic groups asserted themselves and the country, stitched together in 1918 and later kept intact by 40 years of communism, began to come apart at the seams.

Yet, when fighting erupted in the summer of last year, after peace talks among the Yugoslavs themselves had failed to find a solution, the outside world seemed both taken aback and powerless to halt the bloodshed.

The crisis caught Europe at an awkward moment, with the cold war just over but no reliable structures in place to deal with the problems of the brave new world that was emerging.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, seen by many as the great hope for the future, had no mechanisms to tackle such a serious crisis and quickly gave up, confining itself to meetings of officials to review the situation.

The European Community, though it too had little experience of such missions, took up the challenge, and Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos declared: "This is the hour of Europe."

The EC brought the Yugoslav republics together in a peace conference which opened in the Hague last September. But within two months the conference was effectively dead after Serbia rejected a peace plan drawn up by the chairman, Lord Carrington.

The conference staggered on through a total of 13 rounds, the last of them in Brussels on August 14 which wound up the Carrington effort before the wider London conference, which is co-chaired by the EC and the United Nations.

A separate EC conference on

Bosnia-Herzegovina has met this year in Lisbon and London but with no greater success, either because the Bosnian factions — Muslim, Serb and Croat — could not agree or because their agreements did not stop the fighting.

Only the U.N. has achieved a limited success. Its envoy Cyrus Vance brokered a ceasefire in Croatia last January which has more or less held, although it has not restored Serb-held areas of the breakaway republic to Zagreb's control.

The ceasefire cleared the way for U.N. peacekeeping troops to go to Croatia and Bosnia. These, along with U.N. humanitarian agencies, have brought some relief to hard-pressed civilians though without stopping large-scale fighting in Bosnia.

Trying to explain the failure of peace talks, some critics say the outside world misread the situation throughout, first of all trying to hold Yugoslavia together when it was too late and then prematurely recognising Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia.

Both moves, they say, had the unintended effect of spurring the Serbs into more aggressive tactics, confident that the Western powers would not intervene militarily.

Other critics say Europe's mistake was to say that Croatia and Bosnia had the right to self-determination but the Serb minorities in those republics did not, and that Yugoslavia had to split along its old, arbitrary internal frontiers.

"The main failure of the EC was that it refused to confront the fundamental question in Yugoslavia: The scope and limits of self-determination," Mr. Zameceta says.

For this reason the EC, and particularly Germany which led the campaign to recognise Croatia and Slovenia, came to be seen by Serbia as biased against it.

But defenders of the community say it was in a no-win situation, and that the Yugoslavs were bent on war anyway. The ceasefire in Croatia only came when Serbs and Croats saw no further reason for fighting.

Some analysts gloomily predict that the same could hold true of Bosnia, and that the London conference may end up endorsing the map of Yugoslavia that the gunmen have wrought by violence.

Others, including participants in the London talks, fear the fighting will go on and could spread to other areas so far unaffected, such as the Albanian-majority region of Kosovo.

Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, who will head the U.S. delegation, said on Friday: "I don't think this tragic situation is going to end in any short period of time, no matter what we do to try to bring it to an end."



## Jordan reports progress in efforts

(Continued from page 1)

"I thought that the age of patronising statements was over," Dr. Ashrawi said when asked for comment on Mr. Gal's remarks. "Everybody has a lot to lose if the peace process fails and everybody has a lot to gain if the peace process succeeds."

As in four of the past five rounds beginning nearly a year ago, the State Department provided the setting.

"We see opportunities for real progress and we've urged all parties to come prepared with serious, substantive proposals," Joseph Snyder, a State Department spokesman, said.

But his statement also acknowledged that the negotiators were dealing with "complicated issues that cannot be resolved overnight."

Syria, at the outset, said its objective was an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and all the other land Israel occupied in the 1967 war.

Only after Israel agrees to this "basic principle," will Syria be prepared to discuss security arrangements for the strategic territory or a peace treaty, said Mr. Alaf of Syria.

The demand for total Israeli withdrawal on all fronts was levelled by Mr. Alaf as he entered the State Department building.

"We are here for a comprehensive and total peace," he said, "not for a partial peace. The only way to reach a comprehensive peace is to return all the territories occupied in 1967."

Mr. Rabinovich, the chief Israeli negotiator in the talks with Syria, avoided a clash on the issue in his remarks to reporters.

"We are expecting to see more progress," he said. "As you know very well, Israel has a new government... we come here with a lot of good will, many high hopes."

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## Bouez

(Continued from page 1)

"France hopes deeply that a truly democratic process can be reintroduced in conditions... favouring the reconciliation of all Lebanese and free expression of the opinions of everyone," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"France could only welcome a national poll which was finally supposed to allow the Lebanese to express their choice freely by designating a parliament, provided the poll be held in conditions guaranteeing its credibility," the statement said.

"But the confusion in which the first day of voting took place on Sunday and the obvious fraud which marred it, seriously altered its meaning and significance," it added.

## Baghdad sees its victory

(Continued from page 1)

32nd Parallel. But "there has been considerable Iraqi military activity in the south, in the sense that all of their fixed-wing aircraft appear to have left the area below the 32nd Parallel," Mr. Hall told reporters Tuesday.

Baghdad has told U.N. diplomats that only reconnaissance and training flights are being carried out over the region, except in case of an attack by Iran, a Western source said.

The assurance was given by Iraqi U.N. envoy Abdul Amir Al Anbari at a meeting he requested with representatives of the United States, Britain, France and Russia.

The four permanent Security Council members were reported to have been sceptical and the flight exclusion plan will go ahead, the source added.

Acting U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said they agreed on a need for a "no-fly zone" over part of southern Iraq.

They spoke to reporters in London before holding their first meeting since Mr. Eagleburger took over the State Department on Sunday. Both were in London to take part in an international conference opening on Wednesday on the war in Yugoslavia.

Mr. Eagleburger said the decision on when to implement the "no-fly-zone" would be taken in Washington, but added: "I would be very surprised if we don't collectively go forward with it."

Mr. Kozyrev agreed. "I think it's high time we take strong measures to bring Iraq and the Iraqi leaders in accord with U.N. resolutions," he said.

Gulf-based officials and diplomats said Monday there was widespread Arab concern the Western plan could lead to dismemberment of Iraq.

Kuwait is the only Arab state to openly declare its support for the Western plans.

Saudi Arabia and Egypt have been officially silent on the plan, although U.S. air force jets could be launched from Saudi Arabia to enforce the ban.

Iraqi newspapers said Baghdad was calling a conference of political parties, trade unions and nationalist personalities from across the Arab World to "enlighten the Arabs about the dangerous consequences of the West's plans."

"Let's bury the trio-conspiracy in its cradle," urged Al Jumhuriyah.

"Iraq will fight the plot with determination and turn the southern marshlands into a graveyard for evil people," it said.

Saad Qassim Hammudi, a senior member of the ruling Baath Party, warned Saudi Arabia that the West would demand a similar exclusion zone in its predominantly Shiite eastern province once such plans went ahead for Iraq.

Egypt's semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram said the West's plan would not infringe Iraq's sovereignty.

Al-Ahram usually reflects government thinking.

It said in an editorial that Baghdad was pushing the idea that the West wants to dismember Iraq "in a clear attempt to attract Iraqi and Arab public opinion."

"This attempt has clearly been aborted by the United States, Western and Arab states and even the Iraqi opposition which

are all keen on the unity of Iraq and the safety of its lands," the newspaper said.

Dayan defies law, meets Shaath

TEL AVIV (AP) — Yael Dayan, a legislator for the ruling Labour Party and longtime peace activist said Tuesday she met with a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official last week in defiance of Israeli law. Ms. Dayan was accompanied by legislator Naomi Hazan of the left-wing Meretz bloc to the meeting Saturday with Nabil Shaath in the Hague, Holland, a spokesman for Meretz said. A 1986 law bans contacts with the PLO, and offenders can be sentenced to up to three years in prison. But the new cabinet of Labour Party leader Yitzhak Rabin is moving to modify the law.

Close French vote seen on Maastricht

PARIS (R) — Two opinion polls on Tuesday showed the French set for a very close vote on the Maastricht treaty in a Sept. 20 referendum. One poll showed a narrow victory in favour of the accord, the other a narrow vote against.

A BVA poll to be broadcast on state television Tuesday evening and published in Paris Match Magazine on Thursday showed that of those who had made up their minds which way to vote 51 per cent would vote "no" and 49 per cent "yes."

But an IFOP poll to be published in L'Express magazine on Thursday showed that of people who expressed a preference, 51 per cent would vote "yes" and 49 per cent "no" a spokesman for IFOP said.

The BVA survey was the first opinion poll to show the French would reject the accord on European political, economic and monetary union.

Senior leaders

(Continued from page 1)

matyar's offer as rhetoric, saying he was unlikely to be satisfied without supreme power.

He began his assault two weeks ago to back a demand for disbandment of the powerful militia, whom he brands traitors.

The militia defection to the Mujahadeen precipitated the fall of the former communists. They refuse to withdraw saying they are now a legitimate arm of the Mujahadeen army.

"We can say these people are trying to strike a deal that is face-saving for Hekmatyar and acceptable to the government," one Afghan official said.

The government on Tuesday accused Mr. Hekmatyar of joining forces with prominent communists, including three ex-defence ministers. He is known to have allied with Aslam Watanjar, Mohammad Rafi and Shahmawaz Tanai, all defence ministers in the Soviet-backed government.

The scream of outgoing rocket salvos echoed throughout the night and rebel forces responded with rockets and shells from positions in the hills surrounding Kabul.

The Defence Ministry said it had captured six Hezb posts on strategic Chistoon hill. Its opponents riddled the military academy on the eastern outskirts and set ablaze a fuel depot.

It said it had repulsed a Hezb advance and was "cleaning up" some villages.

A report from Medicins sans Frontieres (MSF) in Brussels said 200,000 of Kabul's population of 1.5 million had fled. The United Nations said on Sunday more than 120,000 civilians had left.

MSF said most had settled in makeshift camps along the road northwest to the city of Mazar-e-Sharif and 50,000 were in bad conditions without shelter and with inadequate food and water.

Israel suggests

(Continued from page 1)

will take time to solve them," he said.

Mr. Rabin has cited a 1974 separation of forces agreement in which Israel returned the Golan town of Quneitra to Syria as a model for a possible interim settlement on the strategic plateau.

He has backed "border adjustments" of a few kilometres in exchange for a peace agreement with Syria.

But this falls short of Syrian demands.

Mr. Peres said Damascus must be more flexible. "If they think they are going to exploit an open approach by taking a tough approach, they will be making a mistake."

Mr. Rabin also said he did not expect reciprocal gestures from Palestinians after promising this week to free hundreds of prisoners and drop expulsion orders against 11 Palestinians.

He told soldiers the gestures came in response to reduced violence in the nearly five-year-old Palestinian uprising.

King

(Continued from page 1)

ion, former Secretary General of the U.N. and former Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, and head of the Greek Socialist Party Andreas Papandreu.

Cables were also sent by Jordan Press Association President Sleiman Al Qudah, Amman Chamber of Industry President Chaidoun Abu Hassan, Chief justice Mohammad Mheilan and Amman Mayor Mohammad Ishtar.

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# Edberg wins Volvo International title

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (R) — Top-seeded Stefan Edberg outclassed Mats Wilander 7-6, 6-1 in the final of the Volvo International Tennis Championships and will be crowned champion.

Edberg, currently number two behind Jim Courier and formerly number one in 1990 and 1991, won only his second tournament of this year to earn first prize money of \$144,000.

Edberg plays in the Hamlet Cup tournament this week before defending his U.S. Open title

next week.

The eighth-seeded Washington, who made to the title round here by knocking out second seed Goran Ivanisevic and ninth seed John McEnroe, was disappointed but not discouraged after losing his fourth match to Edberg in as many meetings.

"I think the tennis I played today was good enough to beat a lot of people," said the 23-year-old Washington. "But to beat the number two guy in the world, you have to take it up another notch."

Washington made only 53 per

cent of his first serves.

"Maybe my first serve percentage wasn't that good, but some of it might be Stefan putting so much pressure on me. What he was doing was no surprise, I knew what I wanted to do. I just couldn't execute well enough to bother him."

Washington missed a golden chance in the first-set tiebreaker. "He missed an easy backhand volley which would have put him up 4-0 in the breaker," Edberg recalled.

"It was crunch time and I just

didn't make the big shots," Washington said.

After trailing 4-2 in the tiebreaker, Edberg took the last five points for the set.

"I was just thinking in the second set that I didn't want to let him back in the match," said Edberg.

The second set took only 26 minutes as Edberg, charging the net behind his own serve and on service returns, broke the American in the second and sixth games.

"If I win the (U.S.) Open, it will take care of the year," said the Swedish world number two of year's final Grand Slam event. "I've always said whenever you can win a Slam you have had a good year."

"I know my game is back in shape again and I need to just focus in on what I need to do over the next three weeks," he said after only the second tournament victory of a year marked by mediocrity.

"It has been a little bit of a down period," added the 26-year-old two-time Wimbledon and Australian Open champion.

"I haven't had a big slump or anything, it has just turned down a little bit. I've played some good tennis, some average tennis and some bad tennis."

Edberg began the year as number one in the world and immediately reached the Australian Open final where his loss to Jim Courier opened the door for the American to replace him atop the world rankings.

Although he briefly regained the number one ranking before relinquishing it again to Courier, Edberg managed to reach just two more finals before the Volvo with his only title coming on clay at the German Open in May.



Stefan Edberg

"After the Australian I thought I'm back again," said Edberg, before conceding. "Maybe it was a little going up before I went down."

Edberg has not been a factor at the majors since the Australian. He went out in the third round at the French Open and in the Wimbledon quarterfinals.

John McEnroe said he has seen little evidence of the brilliant form Edberg displayed last year at the U.S. Open when he routed Ivan Lendl and Courier in the semifinals and final.

"Those were the best matches I've seen and I haven't seen the

same thing this year," McEnroe observed. "He doesn't look as quite on top of things. It doesn't look like he has got all the gears clicking."

Edberg, however, is not worried.

"I still think it's possible to be number one again," he said. "You shouldn't grumble when you are number two. There is no need to push the panic button quite yet."

And the cure for what ails him could be just around the corner. "Always when you win a Slam, you are going to feel like you are on top of the world."

## Denmark fear complacency more than Latvia

RIGA, Latvia (R) — European Champions Denmark have only themselves to worry about in their World Cup soccer qualifier against humble Latvia Wednesday.

The Group 3 match will be Denmark's first since their heroic triumph in Sweden last June and coach Richard Moeller Nielsen is concerned about complacency.

"These kind of matches pose a very big danger ... I hope the team is professional enough to ensure it doesn't get complacent," he told a news conference Tuesday.

No coach likes to tempt fate but all the odds suggest Denmark should run away with a handsome win similar to the 6-0 thrashing meted out by Switzerland to Latvia's Baltic neighbours Estonia in a similar qualifier this month.

Latvia, independent as a nation since last year, have only been playing international football for a few months and coach Janis Gilis has no illusions about his players.

"Playing the European champions is very prestigious but we know it will be difficult," he said Tuesday.

"Of course we want to spring a surprise, but they are coming with their best side. It will be very

hard."

The Latvians may have a secret weapon in the bumpy pitch at Riga's Daugava Stadium but much will depend on how much the players have learned from recent experience.

Latvia conceded a late goal to lose 2-1 at home to Lithuania in their first qualifier two weeks ago. Gilis said the defeat was due to "silly mistakes" which he vowed to eliminate.

Moeller Nielsen has no injury problems to worry about but instead has the task of deciding who will play alongside established strikers Brian Laudrup and Flemming Poulsen.

The choice is made harder by outstanding performances at the

weekend from several players fighting for a place.

Bent Christensen scored for his German club Schalke 04, while Lars Elstrup bagged a brace of goals for his Danish club Odense to prove he had recovered from a knee injury.

The Danes will be missing midfielder Kent Nielsen, who has retired from international football, and midfielder Henrik Larsen, subject of a lingering club dispute.

Virtually all the Latvian squad play in Latvia — several for champions Skonto Riga — but goalkeeper Oleg Korovayev plays for OFK Belgrade and defender Yuri Shvilekov for Finnish side Vampra.

## Krabbe offers no new defence

FRANKFURT, Germany (R) — Double world sprint champion Katrin Krabbe offered no new defence at a final hearing before the German Athletics Federation (DLV) imposed the expected four-year ban for failing a drugs test. "No new information came out of the hearing," the DLV said in a statement after its anti-doping commission met Krabbe and east German team mate Grit Breuer in Frankfurt. Krabbe, the 100 and 200 metres champion at last year's world championships, and world 400 metres silver medalist Breuer were suspended on Aug. 14 after random dope tests in July showed they had taken the drug Clenbuterol.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Not a vitally important day but one in which you would be wise to gain the good will of others. Be careful not to criticize those near you if they happen to be in a sulky mood or upset.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Don't be influenced by a carping bigwig early but depend upon new or advanced sources of information which will give you a more correct steer.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) New ideas are not for you early but then you find advanced practical methods and ways to handle your affairs come to light so seize and use them.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) A brilliant friend has the right mode of approach for you to do what will enhance your worldly reputation and put you on top of the heap.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't let a limiting outsider get in your hair early but you can make big headway by performing duties so you impress one in authority.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You now have the inspiration to gain your most cherished aspirations by taking some definite action in completing, bringing talents to others attention.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Think about what you can do

to bring practical problems to an older member of the family at the right moment so you can make your foray in helpfulness work.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) A dynamic partner needs a resume of your long time desire if you are to get the maximum result so be sure you see this is sent to this individual.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Think about what your longtime practical goals are and then you will be able to get into the actual information and support needed for their realization.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Be alert to some improved means by which to enjoy the recreations and amusements that most appeal to you and get comrades to join you in them.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Put yourself now in the position to sidestep your own desires and to quietly go about doing those things which you know will gratify your own class.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Going on a jaunt with a longtime good friend can be the means by which you can have the greatest amount of pleasure, effectiveness today and tonight.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Bring to the attention of modern minded money persons what you want out of life where home and family interests are concerned, follow their advice.

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## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH CHAM, SHARIF & TAMARA KIRSCH  
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### WATCH THOSE ENTRIES

East-West vulnerable. East deals.  
NORTH  
♠ A K Q 7 5 4  
♥ 7 3  
♦ A 10 6  
♣ 5 2

WEST EAST  
♠ 10 9 8 2 ♠ J 9 6 3  
♥ 3 7 ♥ 5 4  
♦ K 5 ♦ 8 7 2  
♣ A K Q J 9 ♣ 10 5 7 6

SOUTH  
♠ 10 2  
♥ A K J 6  
♦ Q J 9 4 3  
♣ 4 3

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass Pass 1 7 1 ♠  
Pass 2 3 3 8 ♠  
Pass 3 7 Pass 3 ♠  
Pass 4 3 Pass 5 ♠  
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠  
To maximize the assets of a bridge hand, you usually need secure lines of communication—the ability to move from one hand to another, as the need arises. Lack of an entry can wreck havoc with some contracts.

South's failure to open the bidding, in spite of his 13, led to a labored auction in which North-South struggled to their second-best contract. With the king of diamonds

outside, four spades makes despite the 4-1 split. It might seem that, as the cards lie, declarer need lose only two club tricks at five diamonds, but watch what happened.

West took two club tricks, then shifted to a spade in an effort to kill dummy. Declarer won on the table, came to hand with the king of hearts and led the queen of diamonds to the king and ace. After drawing two more rounds of trumps, declarer went after spades. When that suit failed to break 3-2, there were only 10 tricks to be had.

The trouble was that South had been profligate in managing dummy entries. The line declarer adopted depended on a 3-2 spade division. However, declarer could have got home even with the 4-1 split as long as the defender with the singleton spade had only two trumps.

After the diamond finesse wins, declarer should draw a second round of trumps with the nine, then abandon trumps in favor of testing spades. When West shows out on the second spade, he can't ruff, declarer can set up the suit with a ruff, then return to dummy with the ten, then return to dummy with the ten, then return to dummy with the ten, then return to dummy with the ten.

## Peanuts



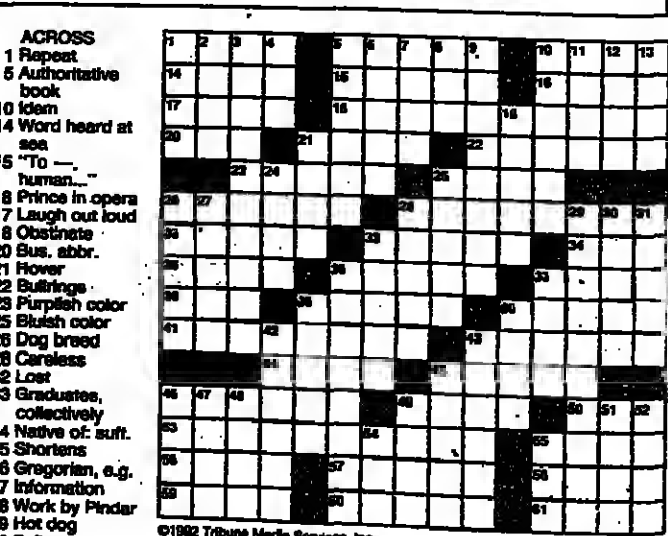
## Andy Capp



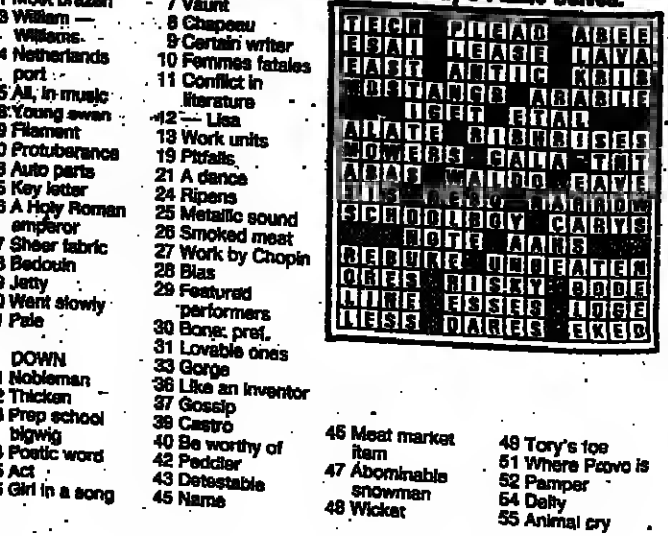
## Mutt'n'Jeff



## THE Daily Crossword by James Barrick



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Financial Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE 22/8/92	TOKYO CLOSE 23/8/92
Sterling Pound	1.9940	1.9897
Deutsche Mark	1.4013	1.3963
Swiss Franc	1.2418	1.2435
French Franc	4.7830	4.7940
Japanese Yen	124.63	124.85
European Currency Unit	1.4443	1.4396

Source: Reuters  
European Opening 10:00 a.m. GMT

Currency	1 UNIT	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.31	3.38	3.30	3.08
Sterling Pound	10.23	10.50	10.56	10.62
Deutsche Mark	9.68	9.68	9.68	9.75
Swiss Franc	7.68	8.06	7.94	8.08
French Franc	9.93	10.37	10.43	10.50
Japanese Yen	5.93	5.71	5.56	5.43
European Currency Unit	11.00	11.00	11.00	10.93

Source: Reuters  
Note: All rates for amounts exceeding U.S. \$100,000 and are quoted.

Commodity	UNIT	23/8/92
Gold	340.90	6.40
Silver	3.72	0.89

Currency	1 UNIT	23/8/92
U.S. Dollar	0.685	0.685
Sterling Pound	1.3174	1.3240
Deutsche Mark	0.4708	0.4732
Swiss Franc	0.5324	0.5331
French Franc	0.1381	0.1388
Japanese Yen	0.5310	0.5337
Dutch Guilder	0.4176	0.4197
Swedish Krona	0.1289	0.1293
Italian Lira	0.0617	0.0620
Belgian Franc	0.02288	0.02299

Currency	1 UNIT	23/8/92
U.S. Dollar	1.7300	1.7400
Sterling Pound	0.0260	0.0290
Deutsche Mark	0.1762	0.1780
Swiss Franc	2.2200	2.3100
French Franc	0.1796	0.1810
Japanese Yen	0.2080	0.2100
Dutch Guilder	1.6960	1.7100
Swedish Krona	0.1796	0.1810
Italian Lira	0.3650	0.3750
Belgian Franc	1.6130	1.6400

Index	23/8/92	24/8/92
All-Share	141.61	141.11
Banking Sector	105.34	105.21
Insurance Sector	148.32	148.83
Industry Sector	191.78	190.78
Services Sector	183.38	182.55

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

Currency	1 UNIT	23/8/92
One Sterling	1.9885/95	
One U.S. dollar	1.1885/90	
U.S. dollars	1.4033/38	
Canadian dollar	1.5840/50	
Deutsche marks	1.2443/53	
Dutch guilders	28.92/96	
Swiss francs	4.7900/50	
French francs	1073/1047	
Italian lire	124.85/90	
Japanese yen	5.1425/75	
Swedish crowns	5.5660/710	
Norwegian crowns	5.4410/60	
Danish crowns	3340.25/340.75	

Wobbly currencies raise spectre of dearer money

PARIS (R) — Pressure on Europe's weaker currencies mounted Tuesday, raising the spectre of politically unpopular interest rate increases in the run-up to France's referendum on the Maastricht treaty on European union.

As international investors continued to plough money into the safe haven of German marks, both the French franc and the Italian lira fell perilously close to their permitted floor in Europe's exchange rate mechanism (ERM).

They joined the British pound sterling, which spent another nervous day trying to keep its head above water.

There was no move Tuesday by France, Italy or Britain to raise interest rates to defend their currencies, and economists said all three governments would strive to ride out the storm.

A rise in interest rates, by undercutting Europe's poor economic prospects, would deal a further blow to France's unpopular ruling Socialist Party and could encourage a protest vote in the referendum on Sept. 20.

"Everybody is going to try to avoid changing rates before Sept. 20," Bernard Godefont of Nomura Research Institute in Paris said.

"Ahead of the vote we'll see a lot of disruption in the ERM, but they'll be able to hold off from raising rates," predicted John Hall of Swiss Bank Corp. in London.

But the room for manoeuvre is getting extremely narrow.

The lira fell at one stage to a record low of 764.47 lire per mark, a whisker away from its floor of 765.40.

The French franc, whose lower limit is 3.4905 francs per mark, dropped as low as 3.4145, half a centime down from Monday.

And sterling slid to 2.7936 marks, its lowest level since it joined the currency grid in October 1990 and just above its lower limit of 2.7780.

The first line of defence for Europe's governments and central banks will be intervention, buying and selling currencies to keep them within the agreed limits.

"Policies will be defended by intervention rather than interest rates and I'm sure the Bundesbank will be cooperative," Mr.

Merz said, referring to Germany's central bank, whose tight money policy is the root cause of the current strains.

But Jean-Francois Mercier of U.S. investment bank Salomon Brothers in London said there may be no choice but to raise rates if the mark, which is benefiting from the slump in the dollar to record lows, continues to advance.

He said the Bank of France might start nudging money market rates higher if the franc fell as low as 3.42 per mark and, if that failed, jack up its official lending rates.

"It would be something difficult for politicians to offer voters just before the referendum... but in the end it's the defence of the franc that is sacrosanct," Mr. Mercier said.

While there is widespread speculation in London that a revaluation of the mark, implying a devaluation of other currencies, would be a less painful alternative to raising interest rates, Paris economists dismiss that option for France.

"There is absolutely no chance of a change in the franc-mark parity. France would not hesitate to raise rates," said Cyril Beuzit of Banque Nationale de Paris.

The French government cites the Bundesbank's high-rate policy as a reason for voting for Maastricht: Under economic union France would have a voice in formulating Europe's monetary policies, whereas now it must bow to the will of the Bundesbank, European Affairs Minister

Elisabeth Guigou said Monday.

But it is unclear whether such arguments would carry weight or whether the French, weary of record unemployment, would blame their government for any rate rise and take their revenge by voting no to Maastricht.

Fears of a no vote, which have driven European shares and bonds lower in recent weeks, were heightened Tuesday by rumours that a French poll due out later in the day would show growing opposition to Maastricht.

The Paris stock market fell more than 2.5 per cent at one stage before stabilising and bonds were also weak as investors priced in the possibility that rejection by France would wreck the plan for monetary union.

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN KURDI BANK	18,248	1.140	1.140	1.170
THE HOUSING BANK	9,218	2.930	2.970	2.970
UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	225	2.320	2.280	2.280
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	1,394	2.280	2.280	2.280
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT/OLD	42,040	1.220	1.240	1.240
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	278,450	1.240	1.450	1.450
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	32,087	1.150	1.150	1.150
BUSINESS BANK	4,510	2.050	2.050	2.050
REIT ELIAL SAVINGS INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	105,195	4.250	4.410	4.290
BANK OF JORDAN	1,160	14.560	14.560	14.560
NICOLE EAST INSURANCE	4,800	2.460	2.400	2.400
JERUSALEM INSURANCE	870	2.960	2.900	2.900
JORDAN PRIME INSURANCE	98,238	2.760	2.760	2.760
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	23,000	2.300	2.300	2.300
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	827	1.270	1.270	1.280
UNITED MIDDLE EAST & CONDORE HOTELS	71,174	1.810	1.840	1.820
JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION	615	0.250	0.250	0.260
HOUSING EQUIP. RENTING & MAINTENANCE	160	1.000	1.060	1.000
PETRA ENTERPRISES & EQUIPMENT LEASING	9,796	0.910	0.920	0.920
JORDAN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	1,671	0.630	0.640	0.640
JORDAN REALTY CO. FOR AGRI. & FOOD PROD.	1,500	1.120	1.130	1.130
ARAB TRAVEL CONSULTING & TRADING	35,718	1.430	1.480	1.450
JORDAN TRAVEL	6,300	2.160	2.280	2.280
ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY	39,280	7.400	7.400	7.400
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	27,041	8.940	9.000	9.000
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	8,511	5.690	5.690	5.660
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	140,970	5.320	5.320	5.240
DAR AL DANA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	13,871	4.600	4.350	4.350
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	5,722	3.450	3.600	3.620
THE JORDAN WOODS VILLAS	2,110	8.500	8.600	8.600
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	6,000	4.690	4.600	4.600
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	1,748	0.700	0.690	0.700
THE JORDAN PAPER MANUFACTURING	21,835	2.660	2.650	2.630
ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	49,027	3.060	3.070	3.100
NATIONAL INDUSTRIES	1,710	0.570	0.570	0.570
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	26,005	12.000	12.100	12.100
ALADON INDUSTRIES	1,065	3.350	3.350	3.350
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MACHINERY	923	3.020	3.010	3.020
SEWING & WEAVING	1,640	2.860	2.860	2.860
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	38,338	5.650	5.750	5.710
JORDAN SUIPO-CHIMICALS	100,396	7.620	7.630	7.640
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	25,552	1.270	1.270	1.270
JORDAN POLYMER INDUSTRIES	715	1.420	1.430	1.430
JORDAN POLYMER INDUSTRIES	14,775	0.460	0.460	0.460
UNIVERSAL INDUSTRIES	36,530	4.670	4.670	4.700
JORDAN INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	42,494	2.100	2.130	2.130
JORDAN PETROLEUM SERVICES	8,957	7.910	7.900	7.960
GRAND TOTAL	1,562,040			
NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET	1	5550		
TRADING VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET	1	12870		

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**Canada open for business as uncertainty over Quebec fades away**

TORONTO (R) — The historic agreement to keep Quebec part of Canada is raising business confidence and allaying fears the province's bid for independence would send financial markets reeling.

Business leaders Monday hailed the deal struck over the weekend among Canada's political leaders to dole out more political and cultural power to French-speaking Quebec.

"There's been an incredible uncertainty about the future of this country, and if you remove that I think you'll see things get a lot better," said Alfred Powis, chairman of Noranda Inc., one of Canada's largest mining companies.

The deal, which still faces ratification by parliament and provincial legislatures, effectively rewrites Canada's 125-year-old constitution to satisfy Quebec's demands for greater cultural and political powers.

Financial analysts expect the deal to quell years of uncertainty over Quebec's future, allowing the country to spend less time fretting about the future of the province and more focusing on the slumping economy.

"It's been like a nagging back when the weather is good," said Michael Manford, chief economist at Scotiabank Inc., a brokerage firm.

"It was one more thing that consumers didn't need and that business didn't need. It was getting in the way of a lot of people's decisions," he said.

The uncertainty over Quebec's status has been a wildcard for investors and has weighed on business and consumer confidence. It has caused wild fluctuations in Canada's financial markets several times this year.

Many businesses, wondering if Quebec would even remain part of Canada, remained hesitant to make long-term investment and restructuring plans before the question of Quebec was settled once and for all, analysts said.

"It takes a certain amount of uncertainty away from businesses and individuals," said Susan Clarke, chief economist at Richardson Greenshield of Canada. "People were becoming quite tired of this whole issue for the past year."

Lloyd's says any hurricane costs over \$3b would hurt

LONDON (R) — Lloyd's of London, the insurance market left reeling by two years of heavy losses, will not feel any impact from hurricane Andrew unless total costs top \$3 billion, a senior Lloyd's underwriter said Monday.

George Lloyd-Roberts, chairman of Lloyd's underwriters' Non-Marine Association, said United States insurance companies were likely to be more seriously affected by claims from the hurricane than Lloyd's syndicates and other insurers.

Hurricane Andrew, one of the worst storms to hit the U.S. in decades, left a trail of destruction across Florida Monday. Forecasters say it is heading for the Louisiana coast.

"The Lloyd's market is more able this year to cope with a hurricane of this size than it was three or four years ago," Mr. Lloyd-Roberts said.

Lloyd's, the world's biggest insurance market, said in its latest

results, announced in June, that it lost \$2.06 billion (just over \$4 billion) for 1989.

The loss, the highest in the market's 300-year history, included its share of the \$5.8 billion Hurricane Hugo, which hit the U.S. and the Caribbean Sept. 15, 1989.

The Lloyd's market lost about \$500 million (\$985.2 million) in 1988. Industry analysts expect the market to report a loss again for 1990, although they say it is not likely to set new records.

Mr. Lloyd-Roberts said changes in the costs and patterns of reinsurance — the way insurance companies and Lloyd's syndicates spread single big risks — meant Hurricane Andrew would hurt United States insurers.

"American companies are having to retain more of their liability and are buying less reinsurance because the cost of catastrophe reinsurance has risen markedly," he said.

Yeltsin orders safety net against bread shortages

MOSCOW (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has ordered a safety net to be put in place to avoid winter bread shortages, Interfax News Agency said Monday.

A decree signed by Mr. Yeltsin called for a federal grain reserve to be established.

"It is aimed at guaranteeing supplies of bread products," the agency quoted a presidential spokesman.

The reserve will reduce speculation in the grain trade and improve distribution to cities and areas where it is not grown or where supplies are inadequate, Interfax said.

Domestic purchases and imports will be used for the reserve, it said, without specifying what its size would be. The government already buys and stores large amounts of grain.

Russia has suffered severe food shortages in recent years due to inefficient farming and its creaking infrastructure.

It is the world's biggest grain importer, but relies on credits for most purchases abroad.

It was not clear where the funds for the reserve would come from. The government raised domestic grain producer prices earlier this month, straining its depleted budget resources.

The Russian budget deficit this year has been forecast at about \$50 billion (about \$5.8 billion).

Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi recently announced new plans to save the country's grain harvest and ensure adequate food supplies for the coming winter.

ITAR-TASS news agency said

It also envisages tough controls

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## 93 killed in Bosnia in one day

SARAJEVO (R) — Fierce fighting in Bosnia Monday killed 93 people and wounded 271, one of the highest daily death rates in nearly five months of war in the breakaway Yugoslav republic, officials said Tuesday.

In Sarajevo alone 32 people were killed and 131 wounded in the 24 hours to midnight, the Bosnian Crisis Centre said.

The city suffered five days of relentless artillery duels and street battles between rival Serbs and Muslims fighting for advantage ahead of peace talks in London this week.

However by Tuesday morning the guns had quietened down.

Apart from some fighting in two districts, the 360,000 trapped residents of Sarajevo spent what local reporters said was a relatively quiet night.

Mortar shells thundered into the city throughout Monday, forcing the temporary closure of the airport to planes bringing emergency relief to the city's inhabitants.

During the night rival Serb and Muslim forces fought in the old town and Kosovo district, but there was no repeat of the heavy bombardments that rocked the city over the previous five days, reporters said.

The Libyan embassy in Sarajevo was struck twice by mortars and Kosovo Hospital was hit again.

BBC television correspondent Martin Bell, one of the most experienced journalists working in Yugoslavia, was hit in the groin by shrapnel during a mortar

attack in Sarajevo Tuesday. Doctors described the wound as serious but not life-threatening.

Mr. Bell had driven to downtown Sarajevo to cover a heavy outbreak of mortar fire which struck a building between the city's main bakery and the Marshal Tito Barracks, which houses United Nations peacekeepers as well as Muslim and Croat forces.

Mr. Bell, who had been wearing a flak jacket, was ferried to hospital and was undergoing surgery.

Fighting has intensified throughout Bosnia ahead of the London peace talks which open Wednesday.

More than 30 delegations, including all the major players in what was once Yugoslavia, are due to attend the conference.

Britain said the conference would consider stepping up sanctions against Serbia to increase the pressure for peace.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said the world community could well decide that more sanctions were needed if Serbia's support for the conference was judged to be lacking.

He said direct military intervention to stop the fighting in the former Yugoslavia was not considered a viable option.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, who will co-chair the conference, said he doubted it would bring peace to the Balkans, but he believed it might show a way forward.

"I believe we will not solve the

problem, but at least find the beginning of the solution," he said on arrival in London.

The Washington Post said the United States, Britain and France had abandoned plans for a coalition effort similar to that in the Gulf war to deliver humanitarian aid to Bosnia.

The newspaper, quoting unnamed diplomats, said the decision reflected the reluctance of the major Western powers to commit substantial numbers of ground troops to the region, but this did not eliminate the possibility that U.S. warplanes could be used to protect relief efforts.

Earlier this month the U.N. Security Council approved the use of force to protect aid shipments to Bosnia but no one has yet worked out how to do it.

Less than two days before the London conference, officials from Bosnia and Belgrade clashed in the U.N. General Assembly in so-called cantonisation as a solution to the war in Bosnia.

In its first opportunity to take a stand on the conflict, the 179-nation assembly heard an outpouring of support for Bosnia from Islamic countries.

But a senior U.S. official said

Islamic nations should be more generous in alleviating the plight of fellow Muslims in the war-torn former Yugoslav republic.

The official, aboard acting

Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger's plane to London, rejected Arab criticism that the West was not doing enough to help Bosnian Muslims.

Entire Sarajevo, under siege by the Serbs for more than four months, is without electricity and most parts do not have running water or working telephones.

The Belgrade-based Tanjug News Agency reported heavy fighting near Mostar and Tuzla, in central Herzegovina.

There have been no fresh updates on fighting elsewhere in Bosnia.

Nearly 9,000 people have been killed in the ethnic war since Bosnia proclaimed its independence in early April. The fighting pits federalist Serbs against Muslims and Croats.

Meanwhile Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic appealed to leading U.S. senators Monday to help lift an international arms embargo against his country.

Mr. Izetbegovic made the request at a meeting in Zagreb, capital of neighbouring Croatia, with Senate Democratic majority leader George Mitchell.

Gen. Mitchell said Mr. Izetbegovic's appeal would have to be studied if Serbian rebel forces in Bosnia refused to give up their heavy weapons.

He said Mr. Izetbegovic had made no direct request for arms but wanted the embargo lifted to end what he called Serbs' military domination in the region.

Gen. Mitchell, leading a delegation of five senators, including

Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, held more than two hours of talks with Mr. Izetbegovic and Bosnian government officials in the Croatian capital, Zagreb.

## Slovaks boycott talks on future of federation

PRAGUE (R) — The peaceful break-up of Czechoslovakia, already without a president and with a hung parliament, was cast in doubt Monday after Slovak leaders said they would boycott new talks on the country's future.

Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar told his Czech counterpart Vaclav Klaus he considered further talks "unsuitable", and accused the Czech side of failing to live up to previous agreements.

"At a time when you have cast doubt upon us as partners, it is useless for us to sit down at the same table," Mr. Meciar said in a letter, released through the Czechoslovak News Agency (CTK).

Mr. Klaus, leader of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS), which won last June's elections in the western Czech part of the federation, and Mr. Meciar, whose Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) won in the eastern region of the country, were to have met in Prague Thursday to discuss further steps towards a peaceful division of the Czechoslovak Federation.

Both sides and their allies have a sufficient number of deputies in the country's 300-seat federal parliament to block any legislation they oppose.

"We consider this attempt to avoid the talks... as a negation of the mutual approach to this problem up till now," Mr. Klaus said in a statement.

Czechoslovakia was formed 74 years ago by the merger of the two regions in the aftermath of the Austro-Hungarian Empire's disintegration.

The HZDS won a majority in Slovakia in the country's second free elections since the overthrow of communism in November 1989 on a platform of gaining full independence and international recognition, but at the same time seeking a form of a looser union with the Czech Republic.

The ODS insists that the only solution is either a working federation in its present form, or for both republics to become fully independent and then seek forms of mutual collaboration on the principle of international treaties.

"After the elections the Czech side accepted the weakening and factual liquidation of a common state only under the pressure of the Slovak strive for emancipation," Mr. Klaus said in his statement.

"But today we no longer intend to assist in the quiet transformation of the federation into a confederation which, like any other form of a Czechoslovak union, is unacceptable for the vast majority of Czechs," Mr. Klaus said.



## Hurricane leaves death, devastation in Florida

MIAMI (R) — The toll of death and devastation from hurricane Andrew rose steadily as authorities began to tally the multi-billion-dollar bill for a storm still likely to strike elsewhere in the southeastern United States.

The state governor's office confirmed eight deaths in south Florida and some high-level officials fear the death toll will mount as relief workers move through the wreckage.

At least one person died in the Bahamas Sunday night.

Evacuating a million people, boarding up windows and stocking up on batteries, Floridians

had prepared for the worst as Andrew relentlessly gained strength at the weekend as it headed directly for Miami on an unusually direct route.

It hit hard at 4 a.m. (0800 GMT), ironically moving straight for the National Hurricane Centre in Coral Gables which registered gusts of 152 mph (245 kph) until one of those carried off the very equipment used for monitoring.

As the clouds lifted and the winds subsided shortly after dawn Monday, there was a brief moment of hope.

Most of downtown Miami's modern skyscrapers, tourist hotels and the world-famous Art Deco section of Miami Beach had

suffered relatively little flood and wind damage.

But then the news got worse and worse.

"I don't know how you describe what we're seeing, it looks like an airborne went off," a stunned Governor Lawton Chiles told reporters after a helicopter tour of the devastation.

Mr. Chiles has said cleanup and recovery will cost "billions" and White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said it would be an estimated \$4 to \$6 billion for Florida alone.

The storm is expected to strike along the Gulf of Mexico coast — probably at Louisiana — in the next day or so, and New Orleans residents began evacuating to higher ground in anticipation of the hurricane.

All day long signs of devastation in Florida piled up — boats thrown from their moorings onto the shore, or even the roof of a house, waterfront homes washed away, roofs blown off, entire blocks cleared of trees, power lines down and homes with two to three metres of water at their door.

President George Bush declared an emergency zone and departed from his campaign schedule to make a visit Monday evening.

## Akihito to pay first imperial visit to China

TOKYO (R) — Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko will visit China this year in a gesture of friendship and goodwill towards Japan's giant neighbour, the Japanese government said Tuesday.

It said the trip, the first by a Japanese monarch to China, was expected to take place between Oct. 23 and 28.

All main political parties except the Communists welcomed the move. In an apparent protest,

a right-wing nationalist was arrested in a blazing pickup truck outside Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's official residence in Tokyo.

China hailed announcement of the visit as a milestone in the history of relations. "The visit to China by the Japanese emperor... will be a major event in the relations of the two countries," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

## Eagleburger to quit on inauguration day

LONDON (R) — Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, appointed to look after U.S. foreign policy for the next four months, said he would quit government service next January, no matter who won the presidency.

Mr. Eagleburger, who officially took over the State Department from James Baker Sunday, spoke to reporters as he embarked on his first foreign trip

to attend an international conference in London on the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

"I do not intend to be employed by the United States government after Jan. 20 next year no matter what happens and so my objective is to keep things on as even a keel and get as much accomplished as I can," he said.

Jan. 20 is inauguration day for the next four-year presidential term. Mr. Eagleburger was there-

fore making it clear he would not continue to serve George Bush, if he were reelected, even in his former role as deputy secretary of state.

Mr. Baker resigned to take charge of Mr. Bush's reelection campaign and is believed to want to return to the State Department if Mr. Bush wins. Mr. Eagleburger said he felt free to call for or accept guidance from Mr. Baker for the duration of his tenure.

## Poll shows Bush closing in on Clinton

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush's "bounce" from the Republican national convention brought him to within six points of Democratic challenger Bill Clinton, according to an ABC News opinion poll.

After support for Mr. Bush, who is seeking reelection on Nov. 3, rose by seven percentage points from a poll taken in early August, while support for Mr. Clinton fell by 13 points, the ABC poll said Monday.

Some 42 per cent of likely voters polled said they favour Mr. Bush compared with 48 per cent who said they support Mr. Clinton.

The poll early in August showed Mr. Bush with only 35 per cent support while Mr. Clinton was favoured by 61 per cent.

The latest poll shows Mr. Bush scoring strongly on leadership and experience. He was able to reassure some voters about his qualifications while raising doubts about Mr. Clinton's, it said. Mr. Bush scored points with his criticisms of Congress.

Before the convention, some 61 per cent of voters had little or no idea of where Mr. Bush wanted to lead the country. That has been reduced to 33 per cent, the poll said.

Clinton aides charged Mr. Bush and predecessor Ronald Reagan had cut federal training programmes by 30 per cent since 1980 and Mr. Bush had proposed eliminating trade adjustment plans to re-train workers who lost jobs due to foreign competition.

Mr. Clinton's 38 per cent.

But Mr. Clinton leads Mr. Bush 53 per cent to 35 per cent as the candidate best able to bring needed changes to government.

Mr. Bush, under fire from Mr. Clinton over the U.S. economy, struck back Monday by proposing a job training programme, but his Democratic foes scoffed at it as a copycat idea.

Extending his post-Republican convention swing from the south to the northeast, the Republican president outlined in New Jersey an annual national \$2 billion programme for training adults and \$1 billion yearly plan for youth.

A principal feature is a \$3,000 voucher programme for both jobless workers and employees fearing the axe so they can choose programmes and pay for training.

Mr. Bush, who declared parts of Florida disaster areas, changed his schedule to include a flying trip to Florida to see hurricane Andrew's devastation.

The Clinton camp, following its pattern of answering Mr. Bush with quick press releases, said from the Arkansas governor's Little Rock headquarters that Mr. Bush's scheme "was an 11th-hour proposal that imitates the Clinton plan."

Clinton aides charged Mr. Bush and predecessor Ronald Reagan had cut federal training programmes by 30 per cent since 1980 and Mr. Bush had proposed eliminating trade adjustment plans to re-train workers who lost jobs due to foreign competition.

The Clinton camp said Mr. Bush did not advance his plan until 73 days before the Nov. 3 election and many elements came from the "America's Choice" Commission headed by a Clinton adviser, Ira Magaziner.

The United States has a 7.7 per cent unemployment rate.

Mr. Bush's new White House chief of staff, former Secretary of State Baker, enlisted to breathe fire into the Bush campaign, spent his first full day in his new role Monday.

Mr. Bush has received some good news since the convention as polls show him closing on Mr. Clinton, who was up by about 30 percentage points after the July Democratic convention.

The latest USA Today-CNN poll taken over the weekend said Mr. Bush had moved within 10 percentage points of Mr. Clinton, 52 to 42 per cent, narrowing a 19-point, 56 to 37 per cent lead Mr. Clinton held before last week's convention.

During that meeting, Mr. Clinton and his wife, Hillary, came under strong personal attack with Republicans trying to paint Mrs. Clinton as a radical feminist.

On Morning TV programmes, Hillary Clinton responded that the portrait was a "sad distortion."

The Democratic challenger rejected any suggestion that Dan Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle had strong family values while he and running mate Al Gore did not as "absurd."

## Armenia seeks U.N. meeting on Karabakh

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Armenia, in a letter circulated Monday, called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to end violence over Nagorno-Karabakh, the disputed Armenian-inhabited enclave in Azerbaijan.

The letter, to Council President Li Daoyu of China, said Azerbaijan "continues to attempt to directly involve the Republic of Armenia in the conflict by shelling the border regions of Armenia, such as Goris and Krasnoselsk."

Armenian U.N. Representative Alexander Arzumanyan said little progress had been made in negotiations since January under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The United Nations sent a fact-finding mission to the region in May and in June Security Council members reiterated their support for CSCE efforts.

"Our government is now of the belief that without the active involvement of the United Nations in the peace negotiations, concrete progress will not be realised," Mr. Arzumanyan said.

"We respectfully suggest that a first step could entail United Nations observers being sent to Nagorno-Karabakh to negotiate a lasting ceasefire agreement, which both Armenia and Azerbaijan have indicated they want, and a second step could entail the placement of peacekeeping forces, in and around Nagorno-Karabakh and on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border, while negotiations to resolve the conflict are being conducted."

He said these forces could be sponsored individually or jointly by the United Nations, the CSCE or any other appropriate international organisation.

"It is of the utmost importance that concrete action to end the violence in Nagorno-Karabakh be taken now. The situation is extremely grave and cannot endure the passage of time without action," the envoy added, in requesting an urgent Security Council meeting.

Armenia said 13 people were killed and 20 wounded in fresh Azeri bombing raids Monday on villages in Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry renewed an appeal for international sanctions against Azerbaijan "to stop the extermination of the Armenian population."

Azerbaijani said its forces inflicted heavy casualties and destroyed a convoy of Armenian trucks and armoured vehicles in fighting near the strategic Azeri town of Lachin.

Meanwhile Armenia is looking for Western loans of \$100 to \$150 million to help it reopen its only nuclear power plant, closed since 1989 because of public doubts about its safety.

Interfax News Agency quoted Armenian Minister of State Vigen Chitcheyan as saying the Transcaucasian state could not function without nuclear power.

"Chitcheyan said Armenia would look for credits to reactivate and improve the safety of the nuclear power plant," the agency said.

## Georgia threatens to smash rebels

MOSCOW (R) — Georgia threatened a fresh military onslaught against nationalist rebels Tuesday as the former Soviet republic slid closer towards civil war.

Georgia's military commander in the breakaway western region of Abkhazia gave local parliament chief Vladislav Ardzimba 24 hours to resign or face a Georgian attack on his rebel stronghold in the Black Sea town of Gudauta.

The ultimatum expires at 0900 GMT Wednesday.

Interfax New Agency said Colonel Giya Karkarashvili issued the demand after two Georgian soldiers were shot during an exchange of prisoners with the Abkhazian side.

The threat heightened a prospect of major bloodshed in Abkhazia, where local authorities say that more than 70 people have been killed this month.

Russia, alarmed by the crisis on its southern borders, stepped up diplomatic efforts to calm the situation. Officials said President Boris Yeltsin would meet Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze in the next few days.

"Yeltsin will push forward the negotiating process using all his political weight, aiming to secure a ceasefire and get all sides to the negotiating table," his spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov said.

Georgia, angered by what amounted to an Abkhazian declaration of independence in July, sent troops this month to restore order and hunt down rebels who had kidnapped senior Georgian officials.

Georgian tanks rolled into the regional centre Sukhumi last week after local parliament leader Ardzimba rejected an earlier ultimatum to resign.

The rebels then regrouped in Gudauta, 80 kilometres further up the Black Sea coast, where they have sought reinforcements from other parts of the Caucasus.



A Georgian soldier rests before attacking a barracks of the Abkhazian National Guard.

Interfax quoted Abkhazian authorities as saying about 1,000 fighters from the Confederation of Mountain Peoples, a militant assembly of Caucasian tribes, had reached Gudauta overnight and joined the separatists' side.

The officials said "the international forces of Abkhazia" had killed 40 Georgian troops and lost five of their own men in overnight clashes near Sukhumi and the town of Gagra. The claim could not be confirmed.

The Georgian Police Chief in Sukhumi, Giya Gulua, said Georgian forces had captured the village of Kolkhida near Sukhumi and thrust deep into Abkhazian lines in intense fighting Monday evening.

Mr. Shevardnadze has said tensions in Georgia could force the

postponement of elections due on Oct. 11, intended to mark a return to democracy after a year of political turmoil.

Georgia tightened security in the capital Tbilisi and drew up plans to mobilise border troops after the Caucasian Confederation threatened at the weekend to launch military operations and "terrorist acts."

ITAR-TASS News Agency said rival ethnic Abkhazian and Georgian factions in Abkhazia's parliament had both announced the creation of their own armed forces.

It said the moves were tantamount to the start of civil war in Abkhazia, a popular holiday region from which thousands of holidaymakers have been evacuated.

## German neo-Nazis attack refugee hostel

ROSTOCK, Germany (R) — Up to 1,000 Neo-Nazi youths, cheered on by local residents, fire-bombed a refugee hostel in this east German city overnight and fought police in a fierce battle which one minister said was like civil war.

Riot police using water cannon and tear gas clashed with the well-organised attackers for the third successive night before restoring order in the early hours of Tuesday.

The Interior Minister of the state of Mecklenburg, Lothar Kupfer, defended a controversial decision to withdraw police temporarily from the hostel, which was set alight with petrol bombs during their absence.

"We had to withdraw a group which had been on duty for more than 18 hours and replace it with fresh forces," he said in a radio interview.

"If 500 or 600 policemen are facing civil-war-like conditions, then for their safety you have to do a certain amount of regrouping. Such operations are absolutely necessary to re-establish the battle order."

Reporters at the scene said police had left the building for an hour.

German Television said this

was a tactical mistake that enabled the attackers, wielding baseball bats and throwing fire-bombs, to storm the building and set much of the ground floor on fire.

Television reporters accused the police of failing to react quickly to the arson attacks, saying 115 Vietnamese refugees were still in the building after 200 Romanian gypsies had been evacuated earlier.

Mr. Kupfer said the rioters, operating in small well-organised gangs, had been equipped with radios for monitoring police communications and coordinating their own attacks.

"What surprised us was the brutality and aggression with which these militant groups behaved against the building and the police," he said.

Friedrich Schorlemmer, an east German pastor and former civil rights activist, said the riots and the fact many local people had applauded reflected the anger and frustration of many east Germans over unemployment and housing shortages.

"This is perhaps the forerunner of a civil war, an attack on liberal democracy and elementary human rights," he said in a radio interview.

"I only hope democracy will not capitulate before the violence the way the police did yesterday evening in Rostock."

Rev. Schorlemmer compared the riots with those in Los Angeles earlier this year, saying they represented a boiling over of frustration.

"The weak are trampling on those who are even weaker," he said.

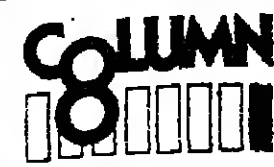
About 10 police officers were injured on Monday night's clashes, adding to the toll of 74 police hurt over the weekend. More than 150 people were arrested.

Monday's violence began in earnest after police evacuated the Romanian gypsies to former military barracks in another part of Rostock.

The 200-bed hostel, often crowded, is to be shut down on Sept. 1 after repeated protests from neighbours complaining about noise and dirt from refugees camping outside the building.

Rioters and bystanders chanted slogans such as "Germany to the Germans", "foreigners out" and "we'll get you all."

The violence was condemned by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government, which said all necessary legal means would be used to end it.



## 60,000 marry in Unification Church mass wedding

SEOUL (R) — Forty thousand people lined up with military precision and chanted wedding vows in unison at Seoul's Olympic Stadium Tuesday, many of them pledging to love and cherish a virtual stranger. Another 20,000 participated from afar, pledging their truth by satellite link-up across three continents in the largest mass wedding to date arranged by Korean Evangelist Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. Clean-shaven, short-haired grooms sweated in the bright sunshine in identical dark suits and red ties. The women, faces hidden behind identical white veils, clutched identical bouquets to their identical white gowns. Thousands stood alone, clutching a photograph of their betrothed, separated on their wedding day because of visa or financial problems. Rev. Moon himself, wearing a white and gold crown and draped in a flowing gold-edged white gown, presided at the wedding from a podium erected above the couples, who had come together from 131 countries. "Do you, as mature men and women who are to consummate the ideal creation of God, pledge to become eternal husband and wife?" Rev. Moon asked the crowd. "Yes," went the roar in different tongues, making one of four responses needed for the four-part wedding vow. The couples, many weeping openly, exchanged identical wedding rings.

Bathrooms prove popular shelter from hurricane

MIAMI — Many Floridians found the safest place to sit out hurricane Andrew was in the bathroom. Skylights, floor-to-ceiling glass windows and doors are integral parts of homes in the sunshine state of Florida, and the first rule of hurricane safety is to avoid rooms with glass. For countless people in southern Florida that meant using the bathroom as a storm shelter. In some cases, people buddied in their bathrooms for four to five hours as Andrew pounded the Miami region. Emergency centres received numerous telephone calls from people in bathrooms using their cellular phones to describe their fears or ask advice.

Eyes down... here is the news

SYDNEY (R) — Cut-throat competition between Australia's commercial television channels has prompted networks to introduce bingo during prime-time news to lure viewers. Media tycoon Kerry Packer's Channel 9 opened its bingo battle for the biggest slice of the news audience Monday night. Channel 9 news watchers in three state capitals, including Sydney, were teased to stay tuned with cars, cash and holidays for the lucky winners whose game card numbers matched those on screen. Channel nine had seen rival Channel 7 chip away at its hold on the top news berth with a bingo game launched early last month with Australian prizes 250,000 (\$180,000) worth of dollars. The results for Channel 7 were dramatic, with Channel 9's news, usually far out in front in the ratings, pegged back to the narrowest of leads. During the first week of its great giveaway, Channel 7's Friday evening news edged out Channel 9 during the first 15 minutes of their half-hour bulletins, its first victory in several years.

Veteran Channel 9 newscaster Brian Henderson, regarded as the profession's elder statesman, publicly criticised Channel 7 and said it would soon have dancing girls and jugglers.

Channel 9's rival game cards, delivered to more than two million homes, offer prizes worth more than 850,000 for viewers who watch the network's nightly news over the next four weeks.

Japan to set up clinics for workaholics

TOKYO (R) — Japan is to set up hundreds of health centres across the country which will try to prevent one of the most disturbing by-products of this